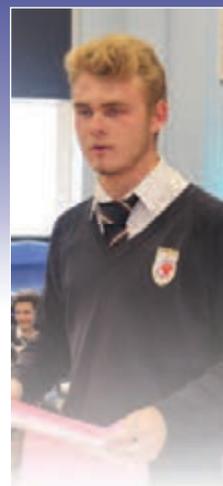


Welcome to the first edition of the **Porthcawl Post** for the school year 2015-2016



Porthcawl Post

Porthcawl Comprehensive School Newsletter ~ Autumn 2015



Headteacher's Address

May I begin this first edition of the Porthcawl Post magazine for 2015-16 with a few words of welcome. Firstly a massive welcome to the new Year 7 who join us as fully fledged Porthcawl students. I was delighted with the transition programme of clubs and activities; this has ensured a smooth move to our school. I was especially pleased with the staff, parents and students who took part in the "Helping Hands" project. This was a series of extra events for the most anxious children. The event went very well and anxiety was reduced, confidence built and the children have settled well. I must publically thank Mrs Sloggett, Mrs Morgan and Mrs Stimpson for all their hard work in this area.

A second welcome goes to the new teachers who have started at our school. We were all aware of the retirements last year and we have been able to appoint excellent replacements. The following teachers joined our school at the beginning of the year. Mr Thomas and Mr Stratford joined the Maths Department, Mr Short and Miss Williams the Humanities Faculty and Mrs Llewellyn and Mrs Kembery have joined the English Department. I am pleased to report that they have all settled well and are contributing to their respective Departments.

	2014	2015
5A* - C Passes (Level 2 Threshold)	77%	80.4%
5A* - C Passes to include English and Maths (Level 2+)	63.3%	66.7%
C Passes in English, Maths & Science (CSI)	63.7%	67.5%
English A* - C Pass	70.0%	78.8%
Maths A* - C Pass	73.0%	76.5%
Science A* - C Pass	94.7%	98.4%

I would now like to focus upon our examination results from Years 11 and 13. The GCSE results were some of the most spectacular we have had in many a year. Last year the Year 11 contained 255 students, who collectively sat a massive 2711 GCSE papers. The pass rate for our Level 1 threshold was 98.4%, up on last year's 97.3%. The table above summarises the success of Year 11 across the board.

A look at this data illustrates how we have improved in each of the main Welsh Government measures. This improvement is based upon the sheer hard work, determination and dedication of the students and their teachers.

The pre-school, weekend, after school and holiday sessions are all a distant memory, but the results are a permanent testimony to the effort made. I would also like to thank the parents of the students who did so much to encourage and support their children. I

feel our school is at its strongest when all those involved collaborate so well, with the common aim; each student reaching their full potential. Many of last year's successful Year 11 have returned to our Sixth Form and begin the next phase of their education.

Not to be outdone, Year 13 also produced a remarkable set of results. This year 169 students sat an incredible 450 A Level papers, the largest ever entry! The most significant fact is the quality of the results; the pass rate (A* to E) was a fantastic 99%. This outstanding performance underlines Porthcawl as a truly inclusive school. Students have reached, and in most cases exceeded, their potential; 28% of all papers sat resulted in the A*/A grade.

This excellent series of results will ensure Porthcawl students have secured places at some of the best universities in the country. There were many stand

Housekeeping

U3A

As a school we are making closer links with U3A this year. The University of the Third Age (U3A) movement is a unique and exciting organisation which provides, through its U3As, life-enhancing and life-changing opportunities.

Retired and semi-retired people come together and learn together, not for qualifications but for its own reward: the sheer joy of discovery!

U3A in Porthcawl organise many visiting speakers and would like to extend an invitation to Sixth Form pupils and Governors, Parents and Teachers to attend these talks. Various events will be advertised to our Sixth Form students and will be advertised on our school website too.

Hwb

Porthcawl Comprehensive School is changing from the Student Resource Centre to the Hwb. The Hwb is a Welsh Government learning platform.

It hosts a national collection of digital resources to support learning and teaching for learners aged 3 to 19 in Wales, and is growing on a daily basis. Hwb+ has digital resources specific to Porthcawl. To access Hwb+ all pupils are issued with a secure username and password.

Pupils will be using the Hwb in their ICT lessons and will be introduced to it in many other subject areas during this school year.

Uniform

Most pupils have returned to school in excellent school uniform as always, however may I remind you that skirts should be knee length/just above the knee and trousers should be of a traditional design and not 'drain pipe' style.

Headteacher's Address continued

out performers with 20 students gaining 3 As or better at A Level. Alicia Cooke gained 3 A* grades and has secured her place at Emmanuel College Cambridge to study Geography, we wish her well. University acceptance is very important for us at school.

This year over 30% of the students secured a place at a "Russell Group" university; the national figure is around 11%. A special thanks to Mrs Rhian Williams who did so much to guide and prepare our students in their university applications.

Looking forward a major feature of the school will be extending family engagement. I want to include families more closely with the work of the school. As a school, the vision is to ensure each child reaches their potential, whatever that may

be. We realise that there may be barriers that prevent some children reaching their potential. As a school, we will remove barriers to learning, thus ensuring each child soars. The school will be holding a series of events, please make every effort to attend. If you have issues over transport or timings, then let us know so we may help. A feature of the increased family engagement will be the sending home of an "interim" report. This report will indicate your child's progress against a target or predicted grade level. We will be setting up meetings to discuss progress nearer the time these reports are sent home.

On a personal note, I am looking forward to an exciting and successful 2015-16 and to meeting you all again at our Parents' Evenings.

Andrew Slade Headteacher

Art Challenge Wales



On the 6th June, I went to the Coast Café in Porthcawl to enter Art Challenge Wales, a painting and drawing competition. Artists and general members of the public came to Porthcawl to create pieces of art, inspired by the people, places and landscapes of the town. I was placed in the junior category and I then went off and painted a watercolour of Newton beach.

It was a cloudy, windy day but that didn't stop the artists that were everywhere to be seen along the beaches and in town painting. After completing my painting, I returned to the café and gave it in. A couple of weeks later, I found out that I had won the junior competition! I attended an award ceremony where I collected my prize; an art box full of art supplies! It was interesting to meet the other artists who had taken part and to see their pieces of work. It was a great experience and I can't wait to do it again next year!

Alice Webber Year 11

Attendance figures for September 2015 - how are we doing so far this year?

Group	Presents	AEA	Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence	Possible	% Attendance	% Target
Year 7	98.0	0.3	1.5	0.2	100	98.3	96.8
Year 8	97.2	0.4	2.3	0.1	100	97.6	95.8
Year 9	95.8	0.6	3.0	0.6	100	96.4	95.0
Year 10	95.0	1.0	3.1	0.9	100	96.0	94.9
Year 11	94.9	1.2	3.5	0.4	100	96.1	94.0
Totals	96.1	0.7	2.7	0.5	100	96.8	95.2

A massive congratulations must go to 8AE, with the best attendance in the school during the month of September; a fantastic 99.3%, with 7SB a close second.

Mrs V Hunt
Assistant Headteacher



Rooney Kicks Off Attendance Awards

After achieving a record breaking attendance of **94.9%** for the academic year 2014/15, Porthcawl Comprehensive School were extremely grateful to Manchester United for letting Wayne Rooney interrupt his pre-season tour of the U.S.A. with the club, to attend this year's presentation of the attendance prizes, donated by the **"Friends of Porthcawl"**.

An slightly unfit looking Mr Rooney (aka Mr Booth) became a member of a distinguished group of celebrities who have participated in previous attendance draws and include Prince Charles, Tony Blair, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Simon Cowell, Barack Obama, the legendary caped crusaders, Batman and Robin, Shrek, Graham Norton and Victoria Beckham.

Pupils with 95%, or more, are rewarded each term by being included in a prize draw for each year group, culminating in a special draw in the Summer term, where we award various prizes

donated kindly by **"Double Overhead"**. The Grand Draw, at the end of the academic year, for which Mr Rooney was invited, involves all the pupils in the school.

Each year, our aim is to include more pupils in the draw, but they must achieve an attendance of 95% or above. **Please note, however, that if your child is taken on holidays for two weeks in term time, then his/her attendance will automatically drop below 95%**, thus taking away the excitement of being included in the Grand Draw.

The target for each pupil this year is a minimum of **97%** and we will be updating you about your child's attendance at the end of each term.

All pupils should remember ; **"If you're not in school...You cannot succeed!"**

Mr. K. John
Retired Senior Year Tutor



Head Team 2015-16

Jack Beale



Grace Flower



Ewan Squires



Sophie Rees



Rhys Owen



Hannah Murphy



Connor Abbott



Rhiannon Griffiths



Joe Jenkins



Megan Goldberger



Ben Cannon



Linzi Watson



Adam Jenkins



Rebecca Green



■ **Jack Beale** - I'm Jack Beale and I am this year's Head Boy and Year 11 Head Team representative. I am currently studying Computing, Maths, and Physics at A Level with the aim of studying Computer Science at university.

■ **Ewan Squires** - Hi, my name is Ewan Squires and I am Deputy Head Boy. I am studying Computing, Physics and Chemistry at A2 Level. I plan to study Software Engineering at university. I am linked with Year 10.

■ **Rhys Owen** - Hi I'm Rhys Owen and I am Deputy Head Boy and year representative for Year 7. I'm currently studying English, Music and Drama at A Level and hope to go on to study Drama and English in university.

■ **Connor Abbott** - Hello, my name is Connor Abbott and I am Assistant Head Boy and am linked with Year 9. I study Chemistry, Biology and Geography currently at A2 and Physics at AS. My intentions are to go to university next year to study Chemistry.

■ **Joe Jenkins** - Hey, my name is Joe Jenkins and I am Assistant Head Boy. I am currently studying Product Design, IT and Business at A Level. I intend to go to university next year to study Industrial Design. I am linked with Year 13.

■ **Ben Cannon** - Hey, my name is Ben Cannon and I'm Assistant Head Boy. I am one of the Year 12 links so if you have any questions I'd be happy to help. I'm currently studying Physics, Chemistry, Maths and Further Maths at A Level and intend to study Physics at university.

■ **Adam Jenkins** - My name is Adam Jenkins, I am Assistant Head Boy and the link for Year 8! I am currently studying Business, Geography and IT and am hoping to study Business and IT in university.

■ **Grace Flower** - My name is Grace Flower. I am Head Girl and year representative for Year 11. I am studying Biology, Chemistry and Geography at A2 Level and I am hoping to study Biology at university.

■ **Sophie Rees** - Hi my name is Sophie Rees and I'm Deputy Head Girl. I'm currently studying History, RE and Geography and I am hoping to go on to university to study a Geography degree! I am the representative for Year 7.

■ **Hannah Murphy** - Hi, my name is Hannah Murphy and I'm Deputy Head Girl. I'm also one of the links to Year 10. Currently, I'm studying Biology, English, History and Psychology and when I leave school, I'm hoping to qualify as a Midwife after university.

■ **Rhiannon Griffiths** - My name is Rhiannon Griffiths, and I am Assistant Head Girl. I'm studying English, Welsh and Geography. At university I hope to study English and Welsh. I am the link to Year 8.

■ **Megan Goldberger** - Hello everyone my name is Megan Goldberger and I'm Assistant Head Girl. I'm currently studying Drama, Business and Home Economics at A Level. After this year I hope to go to university to study Events Management. I am the link to Year 9.

■ **Linzi Watson** - Hi everyone! My name is Linzi Watson and I'm Assistant Head Girl! I'm currently studying Biology, Chemistry and Maths at A Level. After this year, I'm hoping to go to university and study Pharmacology. I am the link for Year 13.

■ **Rebecca Green** - Hi, my name's Becca Green and I'm Assistant Head Girl. I'm studying Chemistry, Physics and Maths at A Level and I'm hoping to go to university to study Aeronautical and Aerospace Engineering. I am the link to Year 12.

PCSC: Porthcawl Comprehensive School Council



Elections have taken place across all year groups to elect Year Reps to sit on the School Council 2015-16. It was a fiercely fought campaign where pupils were firstly elected as Class Reps. They then submitted an application form and were interviewed by Mrs Thomas and Ms Rosser and finally underwent hustings in assembly.

In addition particular positions have been given to the following pupils:

Roles:

- Chair- **Lauren Ellis-Stretch**
- Vice Chair - **Ieuan Walmsley-Williams**
- Secretary - **Daisy Brown**
- Publicity Officers - **Rebecca Green, Elin Jarman, James Powell**

Please see your Year Reps or Class Reps if you wish to have any information on the School Council or would like issues considered. You can also follow us on twitter - [@pcsc15](https://twitter.com/pcsc15) or send us an email: school.council@porthcawlschool.co.uk

School Council Members:

- Rebecca Green 6GW
- Lauren Ellis-Stretch 6EP
- Peter Kavanagh 6NS
- Rhianwen Keirl 11AC
- Elise Thomas 11KH
- Daisy Brown 10LK
- Conor Farrell-John 10BH
- James Powell 10DL
- Ieuan Walmsley-Williams 10LK
- Max Williams 9SR
- Jonathan Jones 9AS
- Lara Bridge 8TH
- Rohan Johns 8MC
- Elin Jarman 7MS
- Ethan Denley Ansen 7SB



Elise Thomas



Elin Jarman



Peter Kavanagh



Ethan Denley Ansen



Max Williams



Ieuan Walmsley-Williams



James Powell



Jonathan Jones



Lauren Ellis-Stretch



Daisy Brown



Rebecca Green



Lara Bridge



Conor Farrell-John



Rhianwen Keirl



Rohan Johns

Activities Day

Trip to the Theatre



On Activities Day, the RE Department and pupils from Years 9 and above took a trip up to London to see Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and splash the cash in Westfield Shopping Centre.

There is no doubt that we all got lost at least once with its 250 shops and 65 restaurants!

After our 4 hour shopping extravaganza, we took a well-earned break to Covent Garden where we spent around 20 minutes looking around the stalls. Then a quick walk over to the theatre to watch Charlie and Willy Wonka ascend above our heads in the Great Glass Elevator. Let's just say we weren't let down!

Finally it was home time, and from London to Porthcawl the noisy ones at the back of the bus (obviously not Layla!) kept us all awake with an extremely loud sing song, not your normal wheels on the bus either! We got back at about 3:45am, all dreading the thought of school in the morning!

Such a good trip!

Katie John & Layla Millar
Year 11



Kayaking Trip



Once again, Cardiff International White Water allowed us to take part in a number of amazing activities including kayaking, long boarding, canoeing and jumping off the rafts. We were very lucky with the weather. Unfortunately Mr. McKenzie was unable to make it. Everyone was looking forward to seeing him fall off his kayak again. That is why he is known as the 'Human Titanic'. Instead Mr Pucella and the gang of pupils were joined by two beautiful mermaids, Miss Davis and Mrs Stuart from the PE Department who did themselves proud!

Hopefully, we will get the opportunity to go again in the future.





UK Young Consumer Competition 2015 Through a Pupil's Eyes ...

... From a Proud Teacher

I was privileged to observe such a fantastic group of pupils compete in the three YCOY competitions. The standard throughout the competition from local to national level was very impressive. I admire the commitment and enthusiasm displayed by our team and they were well deserved winners. The national competition was very close and the challenges set on day one were fantastic, our pupils reacted well to the practical element and they enjoyed the experience very much. The challenges ranged from making telephone calls to consumer helplines, identifying counterfeit products, looking for the best package holiday deal, budgeting for a household and a treasure hunt around Westminster. The team were true to their form and they were outstanding in the traditional Quiz style challenge at the House of Commons on day two.

I would like to thank Bridgend Trading Standards for running an amazing local final and for the support they offered our team. This competition covers a wide range of skills and our team has enjoyed the learning experience. Our pupils have gained knowledge that will protect them when they go into the world of work and start to organise their own finances. I would like to congratulate the four team members and give a special mention to Jack Bridger for being an amazing team captain. They displayed excellent working relationships and remained professional at all times. It was a pleasure to be part of such an inspirational competition.

Mrs James



sustain it throughout the quiz. When the quiz ended, we headed to Westminster Pier for a cruise on the Elizabethan, anxious to know whether we had gained enough points the previous day to win. Once we were on board, they announced the final scores and we were ecstatic to hear that we were the winners! We were presented with a trophy and goodie bags, as well as vouchers and £1000. The whole experience was very exciting and we all learned a lot of information about consumer affairs - winning was the icing on the cake!

Felicity Williamson-Sarll
Year 13

After winning the Welsh Final in March, our team (Jack Bridger, Nathaniel King, Matthew Dang and Felicity Williamson-Sarll) made the National Final in London in June. The competition took place over two days and involved several gruelling rounds.

We competed against 8 other teams from Wales, Scotland and England. On the first day, we participated in four consumer challenges where we were given a set amount of time to complete tasks; including booking the best deal for a holiday and spotting counterfeit products. These challenges required us to work well as a team under pressure and we found applying our knowledge to everyday scenarios exciting.

Following this, we took part in a 'treasure hunt' around Westminster, allowing us to see some of the attractions whilst earning points. In the evening, we were treated to a meal in a restaurant of our choice before getting some rest in King's College. The second day included breakfast in the House of Lords where we were told that our team had made the final four, meaning we then took part in the final round of the competition- the quiz. The organisers didn't tell us our scores from the previous day which meant that even if we won the quiz, we may not have won overall.

We were tested on a range of topics, from consumer laws to current affairs. It was very nerve-wracking but our team took the lead and we managed to





Outstanding Performances in the Summer Concert 2015

Well done to all involved!! The Performing Arts Department are extremely proud of the outstanding performances given by the pupils in the Summer Concert last term. It was truly a wonderful evening!

We would like to thank our wonderful comperes – Peter Sloggett, Imogen Kent, Harriet Maine and Rhys Owen, who did a great job at keeping the audience entertained in between items! The audience enjoyed a range of fantastic music from Junior Orchestra, Wind Band and String Group, before a foot tapping ‘Beatles Medley’ by the Choir and an action filled end to the evening with the ‘James Bond Medley’ performed by Senior Orchestra. The Staff Choir even reunited to sing their rendition of ‘Close to You’, saying a fond farewell to Mr John and Mrs Evans. It was great to see so many perform ‘Hotel California’ in the Guitar Group, and an inspiring performance of ‘Bui-Doi’ by the newly formed Boys Ensemble.

A special mention to the pupils that performed solos, duets and trios: Matthew Pugh, Sam Spriggs, Peter Sloggett, Rhiannon and Naomi Keirl, Layla

Millar and Lucy Vinen, Kai Williams, Laurence Hunt, Imogen Kent, Alistair Noden, Harriet Maine, Anna Arietta, Phoebe Lewis, and Lauren Ellis-Stretch.

It was with great sadness that we also had to say goodbye to our Year 13 ‘leavers’. Even though technically they had already finished their exams and left school, they continued to show real commitment to the Music Department and their contributions were extremely valued. We wish them the best of luck in their future studies!

Lastly, we are SO delighted to share that Thomas Phillips, Imogen Kent, Peter Sloggett, and Alistair Noden have all gained places to study Music at University or Music College. A fine example of how hard work, commitment and dedication can help you to achieve your goals!

The preparations for the Christmas Carol Service have already begun, and we look forward to seeing you all there!

The Music Department



Music Opportunities

There are lots of exciting things going on in the Music Department so get involved in the extra-curricular activities on offer! Singing Club for Year 7-9 is on Friday lunchtimes in P20. Bring your lunch, and new members are very welcome. If you enjoy singing, give it a go! Word on the street is that there may be a new ‘a cappella’ (unaccompanied) vocal group starting soon! So watch this space

Music events to watch out for are the Rotary Young Musician Competition (Grade 7 and above) taking place in December, and the Bridgend Young Singer Competition for Years 7-13, closing date 28th November. See Mrs. Giles if you need any further information. We look forward to celebrating any success of our pupils in these competitions!



Layla meets Rebecca Evans

As the winner of my age category in The Dunraven Welsh Young Singer of the Year Competition earlier this year, I was delighted to be invited to sing in the Maesteg Gleemen Annual Concert at Maesteg Town Hall on 10th October. I was lucky enough to meet the Welsh soprano Rebecca Evans and she encouraged me to carry on with what I’m doing and helped me to improve my singing in general. I was so grateful for the opportunity and would love to be able to meet her again!

Layla Millar Year 11

FutureChef



For the past 4 years the Design Technology Department has run an exciting competition called the Future Chef. Future Chef is a national cooking competition which helps young people aged 12-16 to learn to cook. It inspires them to explore food and cooking as a life skill by developing their culinary talent and informing them about entry routes into the hospitality industry. There are four stages of the Future Chef programme, culminating in the National Final in London in March 2016.

The 1st stage of the competition: On Tuesday 6th October the challenge was to cook a hot main meal for two people, within an hour and to a budget of up to £5.00. This was judged by Mrs Thelwell-Davies, Miss Lambert, Mrs Thompson and previous Bridgend winner



Megan Goldberger. Fifteen young chefs from Year 7 – Year 11 took part in an energetic, exciting hour. Dishes ranged from tomato and basil tagliatelle to spicy quorn fajitas.

The winner of the school heat was Hannah Parry in Year 11, she cooked tasty pork and apricot patties with baked wedges and coleslaw. Hannah will now start preparing for the local heats, fighting it out against pupils from other schools around the Bridgend area. Hannah's challenge will be to prepare and cook a hot main course and a hot or cold dessert for two people within a budget of up to £7.00.

I would like to congratulate all pupils who entered especially the winner Hannah Parry and Cerys Watts the runner up who will also compete in the Bridgend heats.

Thinking of Studying Sociology after Sixth Form?

Last Summer the Year 12 (now Year 13) Sociology class went on a trip to the University of South Wales, Treforest Campus, for a taster session. During the lecture, we learnt more about Sociology at university level and how to effectively research and find the best sources to use. We also looked at contemporary sociological issues and looked at sources to back up either side of a topical issue, the refugee crisis.

This trip, not only let us experience studying Sociology at a further level in a university setting, it helped us feel less intimidated by it.

Chole Owen & Helen Anderson
Year 13

Entrepreneur Experience -Talk by Visiting Business Woman



Well... school didn't start as normal that day. Instead of being ushered into form and having the usual mundane routine, we were told to go to a French classroom. There we had a talk from an entrepreneur. She told us how her first business was selling unique jewellery. She also said a little about herself and her son who has opened a new tapas bar.

In order to build an idea of how a small business really starts we were asked to write down ways of making money from £20. We then worked through a booklet designing an event to be held. We had to make choices about the food, the venue, security, transport, and a few other things.

After that, we had to present it to our class and somehow our group won! We then went on to compete against the best groups in every form in our year. It was like 'Dragons Den' but with a lot of pupils and teachers dotted around the room, and three of the entrepreneurs sitting in chairs, and we had to present our ideas to them. My group won even though quite a few others deserved to as well.

Jayden Thomas
Year 11



TRANSITION AND NEWS FROM THE PRIMARY SCHOOLS

NEWTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newton Primary School have started their transition activities at Porthcawl Comprehensive School. They visited the Science Department and were involved in solving a crime where Mr Slade had been kidnapped and the suspect, one of the teachers had to be found. A letter requesting a million pound ransom had been received and the children were asked to study the evidence and carry out a number of forensic investigations before they could identify the guilty suspect. Luckily for Porthcawl Comprehensive School, Year 6 gathered enough evidence and they successfully completed the task. However as the case is still ongoing and is in the hands of the PCS Senior Leadership Team, Year 6 are unable to reveal the name of the guilty person!! Year 6 are also enjoying the weekly visits from Mr



Pritchard, Maths Teacher, and Miss Baker, English Teacher, from PCS. During the Autumn term Year

6 are studying World War 2 and the effect it had on the local community and surrounding areas. They went to see 'Rosie's War' in the Dylan Thomas Theatre presented by Theatre NaNog. Rosie was an evacuee from Liverpool who was sent to Swansea.

The production enabled the children to understand the war from the point of view of a child and they experienced living through the bombing raids through the visual and sound effects used. Mr Cole visited the school and through a presentation, games and studying artefacts, including a rifle which was nicknamed the 'smelly gun', the children learnt about the main events of the war.

The support from our parents has also been appreciated, many of the children brought in artefacts, photographs and war time correspondence which supported their understanding of how the war affected family life. Over the next few weeks they will be researching the role Island Farm played in World War 2 and the topic ends with a big street party to celebrate the end of the war.

Newton Primary School would like to take the opportunity to congratulate the Year 6 pupils who have been appointed to the School Leadership Team. Jacob Green and Joe Dingle have been appointed Head Boy and



Deputy Head Boy, Bethan Owen and Josie Lewis are the school's Head Girl and Deputy Head Girl, Ronan Lewis is Head Prefect and Lucy Griffiths, Kelsey Jones, Blake Jones, Brianna Woodgate, Imogen Hopkin, Spencer Morgan, Alisha Watkins, Laila Foode, Alina Biju, Jay Sheen, Robyn Tell, Tom Tweedy, Grace Lloyd and Harriett Williams are the School Prefects.

The staff team look forward to working with them to make Newton Primary School an even more stimulating place to enjoy learning. Well done to you all!

Miss Kenwood and Mr Jenkins

PORTHCAWL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Following the recent very successful Inspection of the school, Porthcawl Primary has been selected to be a training centre for the Central South Consortium. Central South Consortium is a Joint Education Service commissioned by five local authorities in South Wales, including Bridgend.

The ESTYN Inspection Team led by Janet Rowlands highlighted the use of effective higher order reading skills in the school and that teachers use a wide range of teaching approaches to challenge and engage pupils successfully. Staff were identified as having very positive working relationships and high expectations of all pupils.

One of the strengths of the school identified by the Inspection Team was the fact that pupils were eager to learn. One of the starting points for this motivation to succeed is based on the use of visual literacy. This approach has developed extending writing skills of pupils across the curriculum and helps



ensure that the pupils are engaged in their work. As a result, teachers from across the region will soon be visiting the school to be trained in these visual literacy techniques which have been identified as very effective practice in raising standards. Deputy Head, Evan Richards, who has promoted this strategy within the school, has already worked with a number of schools in this area and in London to develop higher standards in literacy.

Prior to his appointment to the school, he worked with the English inspection service OFSTED to improve standards in schools. As ESTYN points out in its report on the school, 'pupils make strong use of their literacy skills across the curriculum.' This also links to the publication of the second volume of pupils' writing which will be going on sale at the end of November 2015.

Mr A Wood, Headteacher

WEST PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL



What a busy start to our last Autumn term at West Park Primary! Our theme this term is 'Castles' and we began our topic by researching our local castles, Ogmore and Kenfig. As these local castles are also the names of our school houses in the Juniors, it has given us a real insight into our house names too.

We have also been very fortunate to have the opportunity to visit Pembroke Castle to see where King Henry VII was born and learn about the different features of a castle. We had fantastic weather for our trip and it was great fun as well as being really informative.

Transition to the comprehensive has already started for us in West Park. We met Mrs Sloggett right at the beginning of term and she gave homework diaries to us all. These have been a great help to make sure we are going to be organised in Year 6. We have also been to PCS for our Science transition, and this was an amazing experience. We were able to use the Bunsen burners to heat up

chemicals and to use the microscopes to examine and compare different materials. Our challenge was to discover who kidnapped Mr Slade by completing four experiments! A great big thank you to everyone in the Science Department, we thoroughly enjoyed our first taste of Science in the comprehensive! This year we have also begun to have transition lessons every week from the English and Maths Departments from the comprehensive, so moving up next year should be a breeze!!

We have all been made prefects in Year 6 this year. This gives us all extra responsibilities such as looking after certain areas and pupils in the school, selling fresh fruit and being a 'buddy' in the infant playground. We have all been given prefect badges and are extremely proud to wear them. It has been a quiet start to our netball and rugby season but we will be starting to play our interschool matches very soon. Watch this space!!

Year 6 Pupils

TRANSITION DAY AT PORTHCAWL COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

In the Chief Inspector's Annual Report, Mrs Sloggett's "Helping Hands" Transition Programme was identified by Estyn as an area of "Outstanding Practice". This scheme is designed to make the transition from primary to comprehensive school as simple and easy as possible for pupils; especially those who are particularly nervous or anxious about making the move.

On 25th June, we welcomed 190 pupils from 16 different primary schools to Porthcawl Comprehensive School to enjoy an exciting and fun packed day with us. Pupils followed a sample timetable, enjoying lessons in Music, Drama and Science to name just a few. Lunch was served in the school canteen and Year 6 pupils were ably supported by Year 12 students.

It was lovely to see the Year 6 pupils mixing so well and already beginning to make new friends. Now they are Year 7 pupils, they say that the day gave them a real insight in to what comprehensive school is all about and it allayed some of their fears about

leaving primary school. Many thanks to all those who made it such a successful day, both pupils and staff alike.

On Thursday 1st October our transition programme started all over again when we held our Year 6 Open Evening for next year's intake. This was a very successful and well attended evening, and it was a pleasure to welcome prospective pupils for 2016 and their families to our school.

Mrs Sloggett



NOTTAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

The start of yet another school year and all the children have settled in well and are working hard in their new classes. The new intake of Nursery Tiddlers have been exploring their new surroundings and making new friends.

Thank you to the PTA for organising such a splendid Garden Party in honour of our visitors from Bangladesh, which is part of a very successful 'Connecting Classrooms' initiative funded by the British Council.

Police Liaison Officer, PC Carpenter, has begun his busy timetable of invaluable PSE lessons while Mrs Pauline Lewis, Steve Locke and Father Craig have been leading many of our assemblies which are based round our monthly values. September's value was Trust and this month we will be discussing Honesty.

Planned and organised by our nursery's Aileen Jones, the school held a very successful Macmillan Coffee Morning which raised £800! A big thank you to all who attended and supported this worthy cause.

It was sad to learn of the sudden death of John Evans who, before retirement, had taught in the borough for many years and was Deputy Headteacher of Afon-y-Felin Primary School. He will be remembered by many members of our staff as being a very kind and caring gentleman who supported the school in many ways. On a personal note, I had the privilege of working with him for 14 years and I will miss our frequent chats, especially on the exploits of the Welsh rugby team.

Kerry Townley
Nottage Primary School





Year 6 Open Evening

1st October 2015

Our Open Evening for families of prospective Year 6 pupils for September 2016 was extremely well attended. Families came from all of our 5 feeder schools and as well as this, many from “out of catchment” schools who were keen to see what Porthcawl Comprehensive School has to offer their children. Following an introduction to the Porthcawl Comprehensive School ethos by members of the Senior Management Team, Sixth Formers took the parents and pupils around the various departments and gave them a tour of the school. Departments had taken the opportunity to set up experiments and fun activities for the children to enjoy and give them a taste of what is to come next September! This is just the start of a programme of transition events scheduled to take place throughout the year.



Science Transition

Autumn 2015



I would like to start by saying a huge thank you to all the pupils that visited Porthcawl School Science Department between September and October this year - we would not have found Mr Slade without you! Pupils came from a number of schools including West Park, Newton, Porthcawl, Nottage, Corneli and a very pleasing number from 'out of catchment'.



Our school was part of a crime scene investigation as Mr Slade had been kidnapped by one of the 7 suspect teachers. Pupils spent the day completing fun, interactive experiments including flame testing, chromatography, microscopy and creating their own pH indicator.

All pupils completed an evidence log and forensic report - I must say we have quite a few budding scientists coming up to us next September and as a Science Department we cannot wait! On behalf of

the Science Department, I would like to thank all the pupils that joined us – you were polite, enthusiastic and displayed exemplary behaviour. You really were a credit to your primary schools and you should be very proud. We hope that all the smiles indicated that you enjoyed your day at PCS and we all look forward to welcoming you in September 2016 – let's just hope Dr Wellington behaves himself until then!

Miss Redmond Science Department





Be My Baby

PERFORMING ARTS STUDENTS



On the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of July, Reflections Theatre Company performed the hard hitting play 'Be My Baby' for an excited audience in the Jubilee Theatre. A nerve-racking experience for the Year 12 and 13 BTEC Performing Arts students, who were faced with the challenge of playing four pregnant teenage girls.

The play, set in 1964, centres around 19 year old Mary, played by Stephanie Harper, who is seven months pregnant and packing her bags in readiness for her mother, played by Lauren-Ellis-Stretch, to whisk her off to a church run residential home for pregnant, unmarried women.

The play follows Mary on her poignant journey as she learns to cope with her situation and fights a losing battle to retain her teenage illusions about marrying and keeping the baby. Despite being cut off from their families and daily battles with a no-nonsense Doctor, played by Sam Spriggs, Mary and her new found friends at the home, Dolores (played by Katie Mainwaring) and Norma (played by Kayleigh Hodgson), shine with youthful effervescence.

As Mary comes into the home she meets her roommate Queenie, (played by Erin Brown) who is fond of Mary and hopes to run away with her. As the girls sing along to the romantic fantasies of 60's hits by artists such as the Ronettes, Dusty Springfield and the Shangri-Las, they transport the audience back to a time when a Dansette record player had the power to inspire aspirations of a future filled with endless opportunity and promise.

The cast were also supported by a group of Year 10 and 11 singers who accompanied the talented band, also made up of pupils from the school. Special mention must go to these hard working and extremely talented volunteers – Lauren Ellis-Stretch, Maddie Dawson, Elin Morris, James Evans- Jones, Imogen Kent, Harriet Maine, Jack Bridger, Trystan Winn-Davies and Arran Pearce.

It was an emotional last performance for Sam Spriggs who will be missed by the group! Well done and break a leg in university! The Performing Arts pupils would like to thank the Drama and Music staff for all of their hard work and help towards the production.



Bridgend - Louisiana Church Partnership visit 2015

Hi, I'm Steve Lock and I work with Gilgal Baptist Church in their work with children and young people. I spend a lot of my time visiting the schools in Porthcawl, hence my connection with the Bridgend – Louisiana Partnership visit.

Take a trip back in time to the beginning of July and I'm sure you'll remember the team from America that descended on Porthcawl. The guys, the majority veterans of over ten years making this particular trip, were once again full of energy, talent and intrigue as they spent the whole of Friday 3rd July in the comprehensive before an amazing show at the Pavilion.

The team were made up of "Team Impact" (professional strong-men, showing off their immense strength bending metal bars and the like) alongside "The First West Band" who are an incredible bunch of talented musicians who

entertained in assemblies all over the school and in a lunchtime concert. They were guests in countless lessons throughout the day, which meant that we really did get our monies worth! No, wait a minute we didn't pay them... in fact they do everything because of a promise they made to the young people of the Bridgend area after hearing about their personal tragedies over a decade ago.

From my perspective, the team of over 50 people were absolutely amazing. I've mentioned their feats of strength and musicality, (1 young girl, only 15 years old sang 'Shake it off' better than Taylor Swift!!).

But as I sat in on some of the lessons given during the day, I was blown away both by their energy and enthusiasm as they spoke about their faith, and I was very proud of the questions our young people engaged them with. Very thought provoking.



6th Form Theatre Trip

'Daisy Pulls it Off'

Pentyrch Village Hall



On 19th of June, several members of the Year 12 Drama Class and others attended a very memorable performance of Denise Deegan's EPIC farce 'Daisy Pulls It Off'. Performed with admirable gusto by the Hilltop Theatre Company in Pentyrch Village Hall, Daisy Pulls It Off (or DPIO) was a three-hour 'comedy' that told the story of the innocent Daisy and her other-worldly adventures in a St. Trinians-esque evening of hilarious hootenanny.

Several famous faces graced the boards including Mrs Coombes, Mrs Davies of RE, both playing each

other's 'chums' in the piece, current head of Music Mrs Giles was seen tickling the ebonies and ivories as Grangewood's in-house pianist and there was also a special guest appearance from Nottage Primary's own Miss O'Halloran.

The evening began with a wonderfully surreal, almost Lynchian, encounter from one of the cast's more senile schoolgirls, offering sweets to random audience members as they entered the theatre, preparing us for a frighteningly enjoyable evening. After some delicious 'interval cake' and tea, the play transported us to all ends of the earth as Daisy

joyously rose without mercy through the social ranks of Grangewood School for Young Ladies, made loyal friends and fearful enemies, rescued victims from stormy cliff-edges, found secret buried treasures, defeated rivals in a particularly tense hockey match and not only found her long-lost father, but herself; in the play's mind-blowing climax.

Truly an unforgettable evening of song, comedy, drama and transgender Headmistresses.

Rhys Owen Year 13

Textiles Trip to the Alexander McQueen Exhibition and the Victoria & Albert Museum

JULY 2015

We left early in the morning on a sunny Activities Day to set off to London. After a sleepy drive, we arrived early and had a look around the costume and props exhibition which featured a Warhorse, The Lion King costumes, Kylie Minogue's dressing room and lots of other familiar film memorabilia.

We then looked at the static History of Costume exhibition which featured outfits from the 1800s to the current day. Having a little time to spare we sat in the sun by the lake and had our lunch.

Finally the time arrived and we went into the exhibition.

Here are some comments from some of our A2 Textiles pupils:

"It was the most amazing exhibition and so mesmerising, something I've never felt before."

Jess & India

"The experience gave us goose bumps, it was so inspirational."

Lydia & Meg

"It really fired my passion for fashion!"

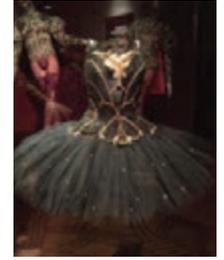
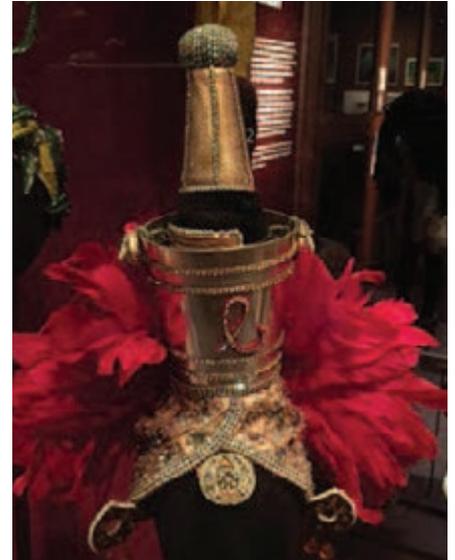
Georgia

On the walls of the exhibition were quotes from Alexander McQueen which we also felt were inspiring.

"There is no way back for me now. I am going to take you on a journey you've never dreamed possible".

"It's about trying to trap something that wasn't conventionally beautiful to show the beauty that comes from within".

Bria Grant
Year 13



GREENFOOT



introduction of the new language. Despite a few teething problems, by the end of the session everyone had created their own game. This code which we were taught will be used in our exams and has really helped boost our confidence in using Greenfoot.

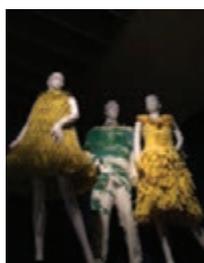
Greenfoot is a free piece of software that can be downloaded from www.greenfoot.org whereby pupils can learn to create an object-orientated game using a JAVA based language.

Give it a go and you can upload your games to the site! We are all extremely grateful of Stuart's time, help and effort with this introduction.

THANK YOU!

Katie John and Layla Millar
Year 11

In September, Stuart from the University of Glamorgan came into school to give an introduction to a new computing language which Year 11 GCSE Computing classes had never used before. Stuart explained thoroughly all the advantages of using 'Greenfoot' and he talked us through a step by step



Theatre Workshop

Year 13 Drama Class & BTEC Performing Arts Group



objectives and given circumstances made for an excellent tale; and how we may apply such ideas to our own pieces.

Finally Michael gave us, each, a picture of a Banksy painting. The painting was of two children, playing with sand and behind them, a picturesque Hawaiian styled beach, superimposed onto a grim and grey suburban wall, cracks and all; in front of the actual painting was a barbed wire fence. We were asked to initially discuss this, and then in groups we were asked to perform the image with two fronts; two extremes of emotion. Physically we were asked to portray a different, supposedly happier, image which would juxtapose a far more pensive and troubled line each group member would have to utter. This idea acted as a catalyst to a further session of devising as we made, by the end of the lesson, a small piece displaying a powerful image of poverty, social deprivation and quite plainly, a false reality, amongst many other thoughts.

The session was a great learning curve for us all and we are ever so grateful to Michael, for taking his time and bestowing his knowledge onto us all. An early Crimbo present; 'noice'.

Jack Davies, Year 13



"He certainly knew his onions!" Rhys Owen

"Interesting and useful." Tabitha Ellams

"Very different and smart, nice to engage in outside school pro practises." Max Bravery

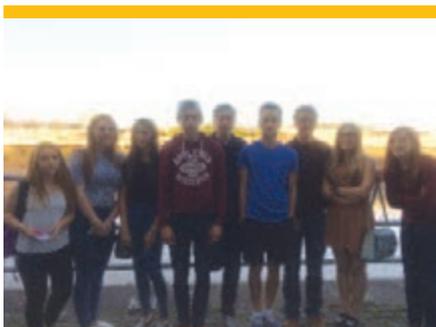
"Interesting outlook on how to attempt the 'Devised' exam." Hannah Mort

"I loved it!" Megan Goldberger

"Good to get insight on someone with experience in the writing industry."
Gabby Abbott

"I learnt loads and the guy was really kind."
Keeley Harries

"It was very informative." Stephannie Harper



Caucasian Chalk Circle

On the 6th September, we went to watch a play called The Caucasian Chalk Circle. We went in order to support a former pupil, Stefan Farmer, in his role in the play. Stefan had great stage presence that captured the audience's attention. The set was minimalistic and was used effectively in this contemporary production. We also loved the way music was used to engage the audience. We thoroughly enjoyed every minute!

Charlotte Evans-Jones, Chelsea Cooper and Chloe Green
Year 11

"A wonderfully stylized piece."

Rhys Owen (Year 13)

"It was very enjoyable."

Gabby Abbott (Year 13)

The 7th October saw the joining of two ferociously flamboyant forces - the Performing Arts students and the Year 13 Drama students - in welcoming a certain Michael Waters to traipse the decrepit floorboards of the Drama Studio. Michael is a teacher at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama; Head Tutor at the Young Actors Studio and is also the Director of a professional drama group based in Swansea. *Breathe*. He does an awful lot in and around South Wales, so as you may gather, we were suitably charmed that he'd given up 2 hours of his time to come and share his veteran-worth wisdom with us.

Currently, both the Performing Arts and the Year 13 A Level class are looking towards devising pieces of theatre. The Performing Arts produced an Evening of Song and Dance - which was performed on the 21st October - and the A Level class are currently in the process of deciding a theme for their practical exams in March. Basically, Michael could not have come in at a better time for both classes!

To unanimous delight, Michael began the session without the, frankly, exhausted cliché 'Now, I want you to walk around the room'. Instead, he played a series of games, increasing both our improvisational skills and our concentration within the room. He then delved into what stylistic features are necessary for the passing of this, our practical exam. He went on to peruse an illustrious catalogue of fine moments in theatre and film and gave us some of his favourite examples. In order to engage with all, and by this, assuming we'd all seen Titanic, he talked about the dramatic elements in the tragic love story of Jack and Rose and of the epic, 20 minute, final scene in which the ship is submerged by the icy waters of the Atlantic. We considered how the characters motives,



Young Actors Studio (YAS) at Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama

A darkly lit theatre occupied by a chorus of the self-professing and indulgent. Drama school. The furtive glances and feigned personalities. But we're in the prestigious Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, and there's no place, myself and Jack (Davies), would rather be.

On Thursday September the 10th, at 7:32 pm, I was watching Jack's monologues for the seventh time that day (a recurring pleasure, of course!). Yet, it wasn't Miss Hardwick watching this time but a panel; including Michael Walters (Head of the Young Actors Studio) - who, as well as our other tutors, teaches for the Bachelor and Masters degrees at the college- the pressure was palpable.

Friday September the 11th, at 10:55 am, in A block library, myself and Jack (unashamedly) shared a celebratory hug in achieving a place at YAS. Being 16 and 17 years old we're overjoyed to have been offered such a high standard of tuition on a course for those aged 16-22.

We've attended lessons including; Acting with Text, Movement, Audition Technique, Acting through Song, Improvisation, Alexander Technique, and Voice. And, after our 10am - 4pm days at the college, on a Sunday in Cardiff, we're still managing to get our homework handed in on a Monday morning...

Lauren Ellis-Stretch
Year 12

The Young Playwrights' Festival from the Perspective of a Writer and Director

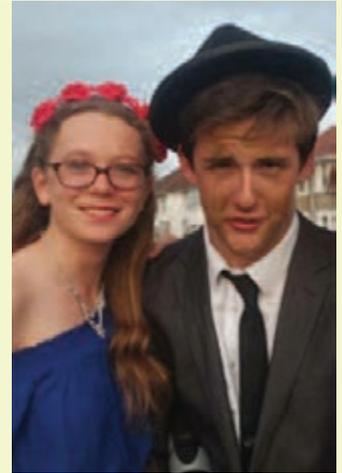
Hi, my name's Conor and I've been part of the Young Playwrights' Festival since Year 7, both in writing and in acting. In Year 8 & 9 I was one of the winning playwrights. YPF is all about connecting with your artistic self, both on and off stage, and is a brilliant opportunity in school life.

The Young Playwrights' is all about getting Key Stage 3 pupils involved in writing a script and taking part in the performance of the top six winning plays. But don't worry, you won't be alone. Year 10's will be your directors, guiding you along the way with hints, tips and advice. The winning writers will also be allowed to help the directors in any way necessary.

The Young Playwrights' Festival is a brilliant opportunity for budding playwrights, actors and directors who want to "learn the ropes" in a calm, easy, relaxed environment. It's a great experience and I recommend it to anybody who is into drama in any way, shape or form.

Conor Farrell-John
Year 10

It's a great experience and I recommend it to anybody who is into drama in any way, shape or form



'Young Playwrights' from the Perspective of an Actor

Hi, my name is Daisy Brown, and I have been involved in the Young Playwrights' Festival for the past three years as an actor. The Young Playwrights' Festival is a brilliant opportunity, not only from the perspective of an actor, but also for playwrights as well. There are many ways to get involved, through backstage, acting and writing a play.

It is a brilliant opportunity to have fun, widen your knowledge of drama and the arts, and make great new friends and to improve your confidence. The Young Playwrights' has always been extremely popular with Key Stage 3, and hopefully will continue to be in the future.

As an actor I feel that working with Year 10's as directors is a unique experience, as being directed by your peers is sometimes easier, as it is a friendly, relaxed working environment, where you feel comfortable and confident as a performer.

The Young Playwrights' has been a fantastic experience, one of which I would highly recommend to any young performers looking for a unique acting experience. It has been a pleasure to do this, and I hope that it will continue as a tradition for young actors and performers for many years to come.

Daisy Brown
Year 10

It has been a pleasure to do this, and I hope that it will continue as a tradition for young actors and performers for many years to come

YPF



Varsity Meets Diversity!



As members of the dance group 'Varsity' from the Emotive Dance School, myself, Hannah Worth and Elleisha Browning were invited to take part in a special performance in Cardiff in July. We went to the Hayes shopping centre as we had been invited to dance there and when we got there we met Diversity's Jordan and Pery who signed my phone case, it was a fun afternoon and great to meet them.

Noah Henderson
Year 8



COMING SOON TO MFL...

This term, keep an eager eye out for posters and announcements around the school for a brand new event within the Languages Faculty... **CINEMA EVENINGS!**

Each term we will be transforming the Jubilee Theatre into a cinema with projectors and popcorn galore. We will be showing some of the best foreign films, with two different showings a night; one for Lower School, the other for Upper School and Sixth Form. Keep your eyes peeled for more information.



Welsh Club

On a Tuesday lunch time pupils are given the opportunity to join in the fun and games and improve their Welsh. During the lunch time club, the pupils are able to access the interactive white board competition and compete to win prizes.

The club members are responsible for the organisation and delivery of the Santes Dwywnwen cards during January. Pupils are also given the responsibility to design the posters to advertise the school's Eisteddfod. New members are always welcome!



The captive audience of Year 11 pupils



European Day of Languages 2015



Despite European Day of Languages falling on a Saturday this year, we were not deterred! Bringing our celebrations forward a day to the 25th of September, our celebration was bigger and better than before.

Students had tasters in different languages, we had the menus in the canteen translated, posters "partout" (everywhere), and with various assemblies for Years 7 to 9. We had lots of lovely mini-books to hand out so that students could join in with the celebration.

The value of this day was immense. So many students didn't know how many languages are spoken in the world (around 7,000!), nor how many are spoken within our own school! Miss Rosser undertook a Languages Survey and discovered that we have Tamil, Polish, Swedish, Bengali, and a whole host of other languages just within this school. We really are a multi-cultural bunch!

Year 7's European Day of Languages Quiz Results

Congratulations to Amy Judd 7JW and Rhys Benjamin 7LM for winning the Big Languages Quiz! Their unbridled knowledge of Languages and their importance in the world led them to an amazing victory over the whole of Year 7. Well done!

Enjoy your holidays? Choose MFL!

Who likes going on holiday? Pretty much everyone, right? So why not choose a career that will allow you to go on holiday and call it educational? That's why you should choose languages!

On Friday 4th September, three ex-pupils came into school to show Year 11 exactly why they should choose languages in university. Rachel Halley and Tom Beer both told Year 11 about their experiences at the University of Southampton, where they study French and German. They also gave presentations on their 'Year Abroad', which is a fantastic opportunity that all Modern Languages students get. Rachel spent her year in Linz, Austria and Tom was in Strasbourg in France, where they both worked as English Language Assistants. They both had incredible opportunities to travel around Europe and discover new countries and made lots of new international friends.

Although you can only choose French or German for A Levels at school, have you ever thought about starting a new language at university? At school, I loved studying French and German but wanted to try something new, so I took up beginners Spanish and then Portuguese at the University of Exeter, which has opened up so many doors. I spent my year abroad teaching in Spain and then spent the Summer travelling around South America and then



working on a farm in Portugal – opportunities that I never thought I'd have. I even got to climb Machu Picchu and live like a local in the Amazon Rainforest! I really enjoyed showing Year 11 all my photos from my year and encouraging everyone to learn new languages, as you never know where they can take you!

Georgina Dorr
4th Year Modern Languages Student
University of Exeter

French Student Exchange 2015



We returned from our French exchange trip to Saint-Sébastien-sur-Loire last July where we simply had the most fantastic time. So much so, it is hard to pick the best highlight of our stay! We were overwhelmed by the very warm welcome of the Headteacher of La Joliverie School and the Deputy Mayor of the town. Mrs Merceron, Deputy Head of La Joliverie, made a great speech about the importance of this exchange between the two schools and the importance of learning a language nowadays. Lots of activities were planned during our stay including a day at the beach and a visit to the theme park Puy-du-Fou. We also had an evening in a crêperie, tasting delicious savoury and sugary pancakes.

The students enjoyed themselves so much, some already said they want to go back next year! It was really nice to see them bonding with their French students again after they visited us in Porthcawl last March. If you want to know more about this exchange, you can talk to your French teacher. We are already starting to plan the next exchange in July 2016.

A bientôt! Mrs Morgan

The MFL Department



Language Ambassadors' News

The lovely Language Ambassadors of PCS have already been very busy this September preparing and delivering a brilliant assembly to all the new pupils in Year 7 about the importance of learning languages. It was the perfect opportunity as the school was celebrating European Day of Languages on the 25th of September. Year 7 enjoyed the singing the best, and even Mr Booth was showing off his "language skills". Once again, the girls did us proud and they can't wait to take on more projects this year.

European Club is in P28 every Tuesday lunchtime at 1.50pm with Mrs Morgan. We hope to see you there!

Merci! Danke! Diolch! Grazie! Muchas gracias!

The MFL Department

MFL TRIP TO EVERSHEDES

On the 2nd July we visited Eversheds Law Firm in Cardiff to learn about how languages are used in careers. Firstly, we listened to an introduction about how the people working there got their jobs, and what aspects of the job they needed their languages for. They told us about the importance of languages and how it makes you stand out when you apply for a job.

We then practised our language skills and asked the people questions in German and French. This was quite scary, but we felt good when we understood their answers!

We then did a little quiz about the workshop.



Charlotte Clarke won the quiz and she got a £15 iTunes voucher! Rob Fenton came 2nd and George Walters came 3rd.

We then split into smaller groups and went for a tour around the building. We got to see their working environment and were pleasantly surprised as it was all open plan, not like a stereotypical office

at all. They even had their own Starbucks!

Overall, the trip was very interesting and it was worth going. The information we learnt was very useful to help us plan for the future.

Chloe Green, Anu Yadav and Tara Philips
Year 11

STEM COURSE Summer 2015

STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths

This summer, myself and Lydia Pickett attended a girls' Inspire STEM course in the National Oceanography Centre (part of Southampton University). The course was focused on encouraging girls to follow careers in science, technology, engineering and maths and to give us an insight to university life and the different types of degrees we could study within those subject areas.

To get onto the course we had to apply online and write about ourselves and what we liked doing, what subjects we were hoping to study and what our thoughts for the future were. We found out, a few months later, we had been chosen from over 200 people and that we had been accepted onto the course with around 30 other girls.

So, after a very early morning and a long train journey, we arrived in the NOC (National Oceanography Centre) and the activities began almost immediately, starting with a team exercise where we had to build a bridge, between two tables, using sellotape and plastic drinking straws. The bridge had to be strong enough to hold a 2kg bag of sugar, and once it had passed that test (although some of them failed miserably), it had to be strong enough to hold one of the course leaders!

After having lunch, we were shown around the NOC and we saw what work went on there. The research submarines were particularly fascinating because of the incredible depths they were capable of submerging to and they could collect highly accurate data from the deepest parts of the ocean. We then had various talks from university lecturers on how to make a good CV and UCAS form and a marine biologist talked to us about how she made her way into marine biology and what she does. This was followed by a film: "Burning Ice" and a debate about climate change and how it will affect us in the future.

The following morning, after staying in the nearest halls of residence, which was...cosy, we were bussed to the main campus and had tours of the laboratories, workshops and the main science buildings of the university. We also had talks from PhD students studying chemistry, biochemistry and physics. They really opened my mind to the amount of careers you can go into by studying a STEM subject and how many doors they will open for your future. I found this really useful as I had no idea where a degree in a STEM subject could take me.

On returning to the NOC, we were told to research the pros and cons of the Swansea Bay Tidal Lagoon project from different perspectives. My group had to research from a mechanical engineer's point of view and we had to talk about how the turbines worked to produce energy. We prepared PowerPoint presentations to be presented to everyone else the following day.

Afterwards, we went to the lecture theatre to watch Finding Nemo. Purely educational, of course...

On the last morning of the course, we all climbed aboard the NOC's smaller research vessel, Callista. We went out into Southampton Water and measured the salinity of the water and how far light could penetrate the water. We then did some dredging and saw some of the animals that live on the river and took some sediment samples and saw how the mud changes depending on how polluted the surrounding area is.

To finish the course, we presented our PowerPoints to the rest of the groups and some parents who attended the presentations. It was really interesting to see the other groups' presentations and the ideas they had been working on.

The three days went very quickly and it was sad to say goodbye to all the new friends we'd made. I have to admit, I was mildly repulsed when I was told about the course; the idea of doing extra maths/science after my GCSEs had finished wasn't exactly something I was rushing to sign up to. But, I am so glad that I did apply because I have learnt so much about women's role in science and what I can do after university by studying a STEM subject. It's something I would definitely recommend to anyone wanting to, or thinking about, studying STEM subjects after GCSE.

Lauren Pugh
Year 12

Junior Maths Challenge Report

Pupils in Years 7 and 8 sat the Junior Maths Challenge back in the Summer term. They achieved 7 Silver Awards and 10 Bronze Awards from 47 entries. We had a good set of results with many other pupils coming very close to gaining an award.

Over 250,000 pupils from across the UK sat the Junior Maths Challenge with roughly the top 6% getting a Gold Certificate, the next 13% a Silver and the next 21% of entries a Bronze.

The Junior Maths Challenge is set by the UK Mathematics Trust and it is a set of interesting questions aimed at challenging pupils' general mathematical knowledge. A couple of questions from this year's paper are below, how would you get on?

CERTIFICATE WINNERS

YEAR 8

Jaden Davies: SILVER CERTIFICATE / BEST IN YEAR / BEST IN SCHOOL

SILVER

Max Williams
Matthew Pugh

BRONZE

Nicola Hughes
Sunil Vummiti
Ewan Aitchison-Hough
James Harrowing
Penny Sinclair

YEAR 7

Isaak Cronje: SILVER CERTIFICATE / BEST IN YEAR

SILVER

Rohan Johns
Jonathan Munro
Katie Liu

BRONZE

Annot Ignacious Regington
Owen Hopperton
Jack Bartlett
Sam Rees
Hannah Davidson

Well done to all the above and to everyone for giving the challenge a try!

QUESTIONS

- Which of the following has the same remainder when it is divided by 2 as when it is divided by 3?
A) 3 B) 5 C) 7 D) 9 E) 1
- How many of the four Knaves were telling the truth?
Knave of Hearts, "I stole the tarts"
Knave of Clubs, "The Knave of Hearts is lying"
Knave of Diamonds, "The Knave of Clubs is lying"
Knave of Spades, "The Knave of Diamonds is lying"
A) 1 B) 2 C) 3 D) 4 E) More info needed

(Answers on the back page)

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze



Eight pupils from the Additional Support Department embarked on the journey of completing their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award in September. They have to complete all four sections to achieve the award with the most popular section being the expedition. The other sections are service, skill and physical. Pupils have been volunteering in local clubs and charities and participating in sports.

The pupils had to complete a practise expedition in September. They had to walk for two days with an overnight camp. While walking on the first day, the pupils were taught and practised the navigational skills they will need for their final expedition. These included orientating their maps, grid references, pacing, timings and compass direction.

They trekked through the forests, covered 10 miles, 5 of which they navigated by themselves successfully, and still had time for an ice-cream in the Margam Castle grounds.

Unfortunately, we couldn't camp in Margam Park, so drove to the nearby Brodawel Caravan and Campsite. In camp the pupils had to pitch their tents and cook their evening meal.

Fellow campers at the site were so impressed with the pupils that praise was sent directly to the school; *"Just to compliment the school on the behaviour of its pupils at the Brodawel camp site over the weekend. We were visitors at the site from Yorkshire and wanted to let you know what a credit to the school they all were."*

So, a big good luck to the pupils who will be completing their final expedition unaccompanied in Gower, walking all the way from Rhossili to Oxwich over the two days, and well done for representing the school so well!

A James and S Ryan



News from Leos Club

John Jones gets made a member of the Leo's and receives his badge from Lion Gloria Ward President of Porthcawl Lions.

Design and Technology Presentation Evening

The D&T Department held its annual Presentation Evening on July 1st to recognise the achievements of pupils within the Department. In KS3 the best project in each group was voted for by the students and the best in the year was selected from the nominees by the teaching staff. All of the nominees received a certificate and the year group winners received a trophy presented by Mr Slade.

In KS4 the winners were selected by staff for their performance throughout the year and a trophy was awarded in each of the 6 specialisms that are offered to pupils. The KS4 trophies were offered in Product Design and Textiles.

THE WINNERS WERE:

Year 7 Food & Textiles	Chloe Wyatt
Year 7 Product Design	Lowri Newton-Williams
Year 8 Food & Textiles	Caitlin Rees
Year 8 Product Design	Lydia Baroth
Year 9 Food & Textiles	Maya Squires
Year 9 Product Design	Emily Hutton-Davies
KS4 Resistant Materials	Dan Hughes
KS4 Graphics	Ellie Morey
KS4 Textiles	Amy Parfitt
KS4 Child Development	Katie Bowles
KS4 Catering	Ben Harries
KS4 Engineering	Jacob Jones
KS5 Product Design	Joe Conniff-Jenkins
KS5 Textiles	Stefan Farmer

YEAR 7 NOMINEES

FOOD & TEXTILES	PRODUCT DESIGN
Catrin Earl	Mia Eastment
Owen Hopperton	Rohan Johns
Ocean Poultney Maddy	Lowri Newton-Williams
Lowri Newton-Williams	Amy Hollyoake
Meg McCloy	Nia Clatworthy
Elinor Giess	Ethan Griffiths
Lucy Harvey	Poppy McGlynn
Thea Kapoutsis	Aaron Rose
Niall Thomas	Millie Evans
Leonora Breheny	Carys Mainwaring
Carys Mainwaring	Amber Williams
Orla Danahar	Rachel Appleton
Chloe Wyatt	Chloe Wyatt

YEAR 8 NOMINEES

FOOD & TEXTILES	PRODUCT DESIGN
Samantha Dunworth	Samantha Dunworth
Anni Martin	Cherisse Lau
Hollie Tibbs	Jess Jones
Lydia Baroth	Charlotte Newman
Anna Henderson	Lydia Baroth
Rosie Owen	Isabel Appleton
Amy Bradbury	Megan Pritlove
Caitlin Rees	Erin Richards
Tom Horn	Jamie Harrowing
Ellie Wines	Phoebe Keepins
Sunil Vummiti	Elizabeth Knowles
India Clatworthy	Felix Parbery
Evie Williams	Emily Morgan
Jazmin Gamble	Naomi Grace Keirl
Ella Staveley	Ellie Granville
Cameron Trahar	Nicola Hughes
	Joe Russell
	Sophia Keepins
	Rachel Whistance

YEAR 9 NOMINEES

FOOD & TEXTILES	PRODUCT DESIGN
Anna Biju	Hannah Ashton
Amy Howells	Bethan Jenkins
Tilly Perks	Cerys Powell
Emily Hutton-Davies	Emily Hutton-Davies
Caitlin Traylor	Alys Ridsdale
Alys Ridsdale	Abigail Smith
Hannah Scourfield	Luke Bertorelli,
Rhiannon Tuckett -Jones	Eliza Barrett
Lauren Cooper	Beth Burke
Lois Flower	Sarah Grossey
Rebecca Owen	Katie Pickett
Conor Farrell-John	Lucie Bentley
Lucie Bentley	Katie Gunning
Gracie Nicholls	Sophie Price
Maya Squires	Hannah Scourfield
Harriet Thomas	Rhiannon Tuckett -Jones



Year 9 Winners



KS4 Engineering



KS4 Textiles



KS4 Product Design



Year 8 Winners



Year 7 Winners



KS5 Winners



KS4 Graphics



KS4 Catering



KS4 Child Development

KS4 RESISTANT MATERIALS
Lik Kan Chung
Dan Hughes
Nia Harman
Stephen Davies
Lauren Thomas
Katie John

KS4 CHILD DEVELOPMENT
Georgia Rose
Nia Pryce
Lois John
Katie Bowles
Ellie Hughes
Blythe Hughes-Davies

KS5 PRODUCT DESIGN
Becky Wardman
Joe Conniff-Jenkins

KS4 GRAPHICS
Elle Morey
Emily Stradling
Joe Rand
Josh Wooton
Katie Shears

KS4 CATERING
Ben Harries
Amy Parfitt
Mai Phillips
Courtney Powell

KS5 TEXTILES
Sarah Bevan
Bria Grant
Lydia Shallish
Jess Sutton
Lois Roberts

KS5 TEXTILES
Stefan Farmer

KS4 TEXTILES
Hannah Beesley
Charlotte Levey
Georgia Comley
Amy Parfitt
Laura Webster
Joe Rand
Emily Stradling

KS4 ENGINEERING
Jacob Jones
Dylan Roberts
Rhys Reid

Year 10: Race for Life Event



In July, last year's Year 10 took part in the school's annual Race for Life event, despite the bad weather which brought heavy rain and wind. Morale was kept high whilst running, jogging or walking up to 5Km, raising a massive £430. This is the most a year group has ever raised. The whole year group were motivated to run for loved ones who may have fought, survived or passed away because of cancer. To support the cause many participants wore something pink. Well done to those who

took part and all money raised has been greatly appreciated by Cancer Research UK.

Lilli Furness, Jenna Blake, Anna Whistance, Chloe Thompson Year 11





Peru 2015

When Camps International came into school to tell us about the trip of a lifetime to Peru I didn't hesitate to take a letter home. In the rush to give my parents the letter, I had completely forgotten a few things; the cost was £4000, I am terrified of flying, spiders and injections and I had no idea how to look after myself or how to be independent!

It was a tough few years leading up to the trip with all the injections and fundraising, but it was so much tougher when we actually got there! The temperatures were boiling by day and freezing by night and we had to camp. The work was teetering on the edge of slave labour and the food was stomach turning! But despite all the whining and whinging, it was the most amazing experience and no doubt the best month of my life, as shown by the amount of tears in the airport coming home. Around every corner there was some little market filled to the brim with treasures and gems; men and women bustling around covered in materials of the brightest colours, llamas and lambs dressed up in traditional Peruvian costume and dogs and children running around playing together. It was so exotic and different from Wales, apart from the Starbucks and McDonalds, which were quite similar!

The scenery was so beautiful; our first view of Peru was walking off the 12-hour flight in Lima and being completely surrounded by these tremendous mountains which seemed to be reaching up to the brilliant blue sky. There was never a cloud in sight and every sunset was like a firework display with so many colours it was breathtaking. No doubt the highlight of the trip was the Inca trail, a 5-day trek over the Salkantay Mountains and through the Amazon Rainforest. It was the hardest few days, walking up vertical slopes and through tropical jungle and getting up at 3 am to climb the 1,000 steps up to Machu Picchu, but it was also the most amazing few days.

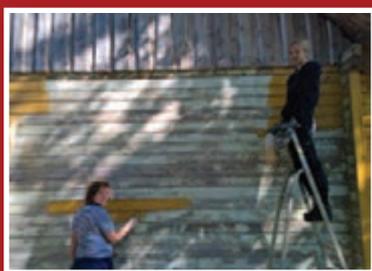
Machu Picchu does not disappoint. All the pictures, videos and stories of Machu Picchu can't compare to the real thing. It is something you really have to see for yourself, when you turn the corner and there is suddenly this enormous settlement you've heard so much about and trekked for 5 days to see, there is nothing you can do except stand in awe of it for a few moments. Then you get hurried along by some other tourists behind you who want to take a selfie with it in the background! We did so much I could tick off my bucket list; seeing Machu Picchu, swimming in Lake Titicaca, experiencing an earthquake, seeing the Amazon Rainforest and cooling off in a tributary of its river, walking on the floating islands of Titicaca. But even with all this beauty and the amazing time we had, we were so happy to get home!

Jenny Hurley
Year 13





Girl Guiding in Estonia



This year I was chosen to represent Girl Guiding Cymru in Estonia where we took part in a conservation project. Previously I had been on many selection camps to be even considered but luckily I got through! I have been fundraising all year, which included organising a bouncy hopper BBQ, writing to companies, selling craft, giving presentations and selling popcorn in school. Thanks for your support!

On the 17th August, 9 girls from all over Wales and I met in the motorway services to start our journey. We arrived in Gatwick the next day after staying overnight in a church hall and trudging our way through the streets of London like turtles, with our massive rucksacks on our backs and another bag on our fronts. Needless to say we did get a few dirty looks from business men in smart suits!

We all passed through security fine and used the 2½ hour plane ride and 3 hour coach ride to get to know each other, as we had only met once before. We finally arrived in Voru in the South of Estonia and were taken to the farm in people carriers, zooming down dirt tracks. We were shown our accommodation - to our surprise it was a little shack with mattresses on the floor and one toilet outside and one shower on the other side of the farm. But after a few days we had adjusted and it wasn't so bad - as long as you remembered to coat up in insect repellent!

For the 7 days we were on the farm we were kept very busy! We helped out on the farm picking raspberries that we packed and sold in the local market. We also cleared the vegetable patch picking runner beans. We collected, cut, transported and stacked firewood. We cleared an area to plant food and painted a farm building. We also met a lot of people and learnt about the brilliant culture of Estonia. We talked to a craftswoman and she taught us how to make traditional Estonian charms and rugs. We also visited three youth hostels where we talked about the youth of today, what it's like to be a child and what is on offer. We were all

really surprised how much support was on offer for children and how active and involved they were in society. We also visited a kindergarten and a secondary school. With only 69 pupils in their school their trophy cabinet was huge with a few of them in the Olympics.

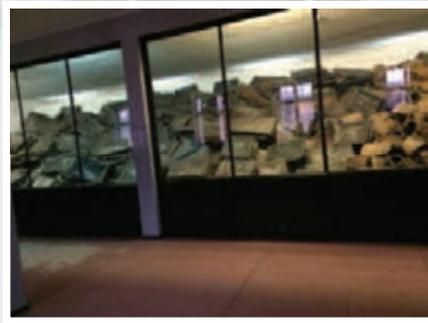
They taught us one of their favourite sports, orienteering, where they have a map and try and find check points by running through the forest. While we were in the school we met some members of the Estonian Guides and talked to them about what they do. We also met the Mayor of Voru who showed us around the town, telling us old myths and legends of the area. We also went to two open houses where we talked to the locals who sang us local songs and we tried local delicacies - well let's just say mushed up fish on pancake isn't the best idea they have ever had! We also visited a dairy farm and tried other local foods. We learnt a lot about what farming means to the Estonians. One of my favourite days was when we went to Latvia and jumped over the border and saw the Russian border as well as climbing up this really high tower to look over Latvia. Another day we visited the highest point in the Baltic States and watched a film about the history of Estonia, how they sang their way to independence. We also visited the main army base, visiting the sons of Igar our host. But my favourite thing we did on the farm was on the last night when we had a massive BBQ with all the family and they taught us traditional dances and we taught them traditional Welsh dances, while they played music on their national instrument which was a guitar/harp and had a lot of fun.

It was really sad to leave the farm as we were growing to love the place, but we still had two more days in Tallinn the capital city. We learnt even more about the beautiful country and the city. Finally it was time to go home. It was a wonderful experience and I would advise anyone to go on a volunteering project - it is really worth it!

Sarah Davidson
Year 10



Lessons from Auschwitz



Holocaust Memorial



In July, a chosen group of pupils from Porthcawl Comprehensive were able to go to Bridgend's Holocaust Memorial in Heronsbridge School. After an intense game of cards on the minibus, we filed into one of Heronsbridge's halls where we were seated (luckily near the front!) and waited for other pupils to arrive.

Following a short welcoming speech, Eva Clarke (the "main event", so to speak) took to the stage. Eva is a survivor of the infamous Holocaust, and was happy to tell us her- and her family's- incredible story. She took us through events from before her birth, right up to her present lifestyle, and her views on important factors such as forgiveness and reconciliation.

After Eva had concluded (to rapturous applause), the audience sat and listened to a thought-provoking poem written by a handful of Brynteg students. Following this, still contemplating Eva's inspirational tale, we were escorted to a quiet grassy area where a memorial tree was planted, with the purpose of remembering those who lost their lives.

Here, we were able to have photos taken with Eva next to the tree, and write messages on special "memorial stones". Overall, we all thoroughly enjoyed the experience! Thanks to the RS Department for the opportunity!

Mitchell Davies
Year 11

At the beginning of the year, we had the opportunity to take part in the Lessons from Auschwitz scheme set up by the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET). HET aims to raise awareness of the Holocaust and the implications it should have on the way we relate to each other within society today.

Within the project, we were able to meet up with other young representatives of schools across Wales at seminars organised to educate us before visiting Auschwitz. At these seminars, we listened to the testimony of survivors such as Eva Clarke who was born in Auschwitz Birkenau just days before the liberation of the camp. We were put in groups and asked what we expected to see and the effects we imagined that our visit would have upon our own lives.

On the 11th of February we then flew to Poland to visit Auschwitz 1 and Auschwitz Birkenau. Despite our orientation seminar none of us could have been prepared for what we saw. The thought that such a vast and well-organised place existed with only death and destruction in mind was both terrifying and sickening.

After our visit we attended a follow up seminar to discuss our 'next steps' projects. The project enabled us to incorporate what we learnt and how the visit impacted us, into our community. We wanted to show younger children how relevant lessons that can be learnt from the Holocaust are in society, and the effects of the very real issues of prejudice and bullying.

Anoushka Pill-Williams, Linzi Watson,
Joseph Jenkins and Rhys Owen
Year 13



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A

DIGITAL LEADER?

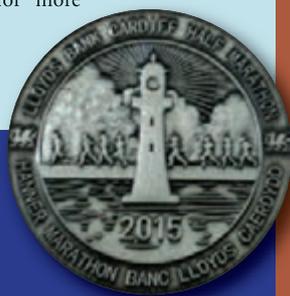
Interested in trialling brand new apps, being the first to test out the latest technology and taking part in exciting new digital competitions?

If you like the sound of this, and enjoy using iPads, being a Digital Leader might be for you!

Digital Leaders will be co-ordinated by Miss Christopher and Mr Hutchison and is aimed at pupils across the whole school, with the help of some volunteers from the Sixth Form! Come on... it will look great on your UCAS form!

Please see the teachers concerned for more information.

Miss Christopher & Mr Hutchison



Cardiff Half Marathon



On Sunday 4th October, our Deputy Head Teacher Mrs Sloggett, and Ms S Williams from the Maths Department ran the Cardiff Half Marathon for charity. Mrs Sloggett raised £325 for Barnardos and Ms Williams raised £290 for Diabetes UK. A very big well done to both teachers, who are an inspiration to all of us!



Year 12

Team Building Day



Our Year 12 had a treat recently when we held a team building and development day at school. As well as designing and building towers out of newspaper, strong enough to hold an egg, teams also played people bingo and games designed to improve their communication and team skills. The highlights of the day were visits from the

Marines who put the pupils through their paces on the field, and from Adventures who re-iterated the importance of teamwork by encouraging pupils to put their trust in each other by leaning backwards together holding a circular rope! The event was a great success and enjoyed by all - thank you to Miss Crook and Mrs Williams for organising such a brilliant day!



Leavers' Week 2015



The last week of June proved again to be a week of mixed emotions.

On Tuesday the 23rd the whole school closed early to pupils to allow all staff of the school an opportunity to assemble to wish our Year 13 leavers all the very best in the future.

We said a sad goodbye to five teachers of very long standing; Mr Lewis after an incredible 41 years, Mr John after 32 years, Mr Roach after 27 years, Miss Weedon after 21 years and Mrs Evans after a mere 19 years! They all left with their leavers' mugs!

It has been a pleasure getting to know the year group especially over the last two years. Each and every one of them has their own unique personality which makes them individual. Both as individuals and as a year group they have achieved so much. We have had tears and tantrums but many, many happy times. I wouldn't have wanted it any other way, I have enjoyed every minute!

On the Friday night at the Hilton Hotel Cardiff the Summer Ball gave me the opportunity to sit back and realise just how proud I am of them all and appreciate the young adults they have become. We had a fantastic night, the students looked amazing and we danced and even sang the night away.

"Whatever your dreams and wishes may be I sincerely hope they all come true. Don't just seize the day, seize every moment."

Miss Crook
Head of Sixth Form



Leavers' Tea



World's Biggest Coffee Morning - MacMillan Cancer Support



An incredible £223 was raised for MacMillan Cancer Support at Porthcawl Comprehensive during the week of the World's Biggest Coffee Morning on the 25th September. Staff at school baked cakes and brought them into school to sell during break and lunch times throughout the week. Unsurprisingly this made the week fly by and there were many old favourites enjoyed by all - Miss Owens - that Malteser cake is to die for! It was great to see Mrs Evans back in school fundraising again!



The total amount is likely to increase as many staff have signed up to "Gift Aid" their donations.

Sport

Nia Clatworthy was selected for the Welsh Schools Team for the London Mini Marathon. She had to compete in a series of races from November to March to be selected. These races were:

- Welsh Schools Inter Cross Country Championships, Brecon
- British Athletics Cardiff Cross Challenge, Cardiff
- Welsh Schools National Cross Country Championships, Brecon
- Welsh Cross Country Championships, Corwen

Nia was selected for the Under 13 age group, which included only six girls and six boys from the whole of Wales. This is a particularly remarkable achievement as Nia will still be eligible to compete in the Under 13 age group next year. Out of a field of approximately 300 competitors, Nia came 50th in the race in a time of 18 minutes 57 seconds.

KEEP RUNNING NIA!!!



Year 7 Colts Athletics Competition



The Year 7 Colts Athletics Championships was a well-attended event, with 40 schools competing from the Glamorgan Valleys area. A number of Year 7 pupils were selected based on performances at Sports Day the previous day. The standard was very high with just hundredths of a second splitting the finalists in some of the track events. Our Year 7 athletes did exceptionally well with a total of seven pupils making the top 10 in their respective events.

These athletes were:

- Hannah Davidson: 3rd in the high jump and 7th in the 70m hurdles
- Annalise Kavanagh: 2nd in the discus
- Krista Kavanagh: 4th in the long jump and 8th in the 100m
- Joe Mackey: 3rd in the shot
- Ocean Poultney-Maddy: 9th in the shot and 3rd in the 800m
- Amber Williams: 2nd in the 200m
- Nia Clatworthy: 1st 1500m



(What made Nia's performance even more remarkable is that this was her third 1500m race in three days!). Well done to all athletes who participated!

Junior Athletics



During the Summer term, pupils from Years 8 & 9 competed in the County Junior Athletic Championships in Brecon. The enthusiasm and commitment of everyone that day should be applauded. Congratulations go, in particular to:

- Will Murphy - 3rd in 200m
- Morgan Roberts - 3rd in high jump
- Miss H Davies

Josh Lewis Kickboxing



Josh took up Kickboxing about 3 ½ years ago at a club called Scorpions which is based in Bridgend.

Since then he has gone on to win 4 Grand Champion belts and countless trophies for top three finishes, competing all over the country. At Scorpions, Josh is helping out with a new anti-bullying course called MANTIS, which stands for Manage Any Nasty Trouble In Society. Over the course of 8 weeks, young people are taught how to release themselves from a physical grab or an abduction attempt. This scheme is backed by the Anti-Bullying Alliance and the National Children's Bureau.

At half term, Josh travelled to Germany to compete in the International Combat Organisation World Championships with his team mates and fellow Porthcawl Comprehensive School pupils, Thomas Salberg and Rebekah Morrissey as part of Team Wales. News of that will follow in the next issue.



TEAM GB SELECTION FOR GRACE



Lincoln Memorial and several of the Smithsonian Museums. They then travelled around the state of Virginia visiting the battlegrounds of the American Civil War, Chesapeake Island, and Potomac River to name just a few.

The competition was held at Lexington Horse Grounds, Virginia on the 25th July. It consisted of 16 events. Canada took an early lead in the competition with Great Britain and Australia close behind. At the half way stage Great Britain and Australia had started to pull away but remained neck and neck until the very last game; unfortunately Great Britain finished runners up to Australia, losing by just 1 point.



Grace Dalton aged 15 from St Brides Major was selected for Great Britain to compete at the International Mounted Games Competition in Washington DC during July 2015. Grace was selected from hundreds of Pony Club members from all over the UK.

The team comprised of Grace from Wales who has been riding for the Llangeinor Pony Club since she was six years old, Courtney Wray from Northern Ireland, Nick Tougher from Southern Ireland, Will Thirlbey and Zack Mallalieu from England.

The philosophy for this International Event is not just about the competition but also aims to promote ambassadorship, education and a cultural experience the children will remember for the rest of their lives. It rotates between Great Britain, Australia, USA and Canada on an annual basis.

The team flew to Washington DC on the 12th July and met up with the members of the opposing teams. They enjoyed two weeks of sightseeing and fun together before the competition began. They visited many famous attractions including The White House, The



Grace was first selected to represent Wales at the age of 12 and has competed in Italy, France and Ireland. Her highest achievement was being selected for the Wales Pony Club team to compete at the Royal Windsor horse show on 2 occasions. In 2013 Wales came runners up to England but in 2014 they avenged the defeat and brought the Windsor Cup back to Wales for the first time in 11 years. The Queen and Prince Phillip watched both finals with Prince Phillip presenting the awards to the team.

Grace has recently been selected to represent Wales at the World Team Under 17 Mounted Games Championships, which will be held in November 2015 at the HITS Arena, in Ocala, Florida, USA.

Grace was selected from hundreds of Pony Club members from all over the UK



KARATE

Alexander Cleary

Year 10



On 10th October 2015 Alex took part at the British Kyokushin Championships (International Karate Organisation Kyokushinkaikan) held in Ware, Hertfordshire. Alex fought in the Junior Kumite and won 1st place in his weight category (above 50kg).

Kyokushin is a style of full contact karate known for its philosophy of self-improvement, discipline and hard training.

Alex trains at Pyle and Cornelly Kyokushinkai Karate Club, Pyle Life Centre, under 5th Dan Instructor, Shihan Paul Greenway, Chief Instructor Wales Kyokushin, Branch Chief IKO.



REBECCA SUTTON

Over the last twenty years I have had the privilege of teaching and knowing many sporting protégés that have gone on to achieve great things. When I first joined the school one of our recent ex pupils at the time; Helen Morgan had won an Olympic bronze medal as a goal keeper for the GB ladies hockey team in the Barcelona Olympics in 1992.

More recently rugby players Ryan Bevington, Tom Prydie and Robyn Wilkins have represented our national team in the prestigious Six Nations Tournament and triathletes Zoe Thomas and Morgan Davies have won national titles and European medals.

However in my opinion all of the above has been eclipsed by one of our current pupils in Year 10.

Fourteen year old swimmer Rebecca Sutton is a sporting superstar. Her daily routine consists of a 5am alarm call; she is in the pool by 5.30, completes a 90 minute training session before school and then is in school by 8.30. After a full day in school, she is an excellent student by the way, she heads off to the pool again for 5pm and then completes another 2hr training session, then its home to do her homework and bed.



This summer all her hard work paid off. She was selected first to represent GB at U14 in the European Youth Olympics which were held in Tbilisi, Georgia. As the current 400m individual medley GB record holder hopes were high for a good competition and she did not disappoint. Rebecca returned home with an amazing two silver medals from the 400m IM and the 4x100m medley relay.

No sooner had her feet touched the ground she was again jetting off to the other side of the world to compete this time for Wales in the Commonwealth Youth Games in Samoa. This time she was competing in the U18 age group category; remember Rebecca isn't fifteen until April next year.

Despite being younger than the majority of her competitors she once again secured an astonishing silver medal in the 400m IM, silver in the 4x100m freestyle relay and a bronze in the 4x200m freestyle relay.

We are obviously extremely proud of Rebecca's achievements but we are equally proud of the young person that she has become. Modest to a fault, hardworking and committed, she is an exemplary role model to her fellow pupils and perhaps even more impressive is the fact that after a 42hr return trip from Samoa she returned to school the following day.

Rebecca's long term goal is to compete in the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. Everyone at Porthcawl Comprehensive School is committed to helping her achieve her goal and supporting her in any way possible. Da iawn Bec!

Mr Stradling
PE Department



RUGBY WORLD CUP ENGLAND v WALES

Last Summer, Rhys Perry of 9JS won a Capital Radio Competition – the prize was to run out with the match ball at Twickenham for the England V Wales match during the Rugby World Cup. He tells the story in his own words...

The England v Wales RWC game was an amazing experience. The nerves really began to kick in when we arrived at Twickenham for rehearsals - our taxi ride to the stadium was pretty awesome as the taxi had pictures of all the RWC ball carriers on it!

The atmosphere leading up to kick off was electric; the stadium was full to capacity so that meant that 80,000 people were watching - plus TV coverage. As I stood in the tunnel waiting for the cue to run out, I felt extremely proud to have been chosen. Swing Low was rattling through the stadium followed by Bread of Heaven. I ran out onto the pitch first, followed by the match officials, flag bearers, mascots and then the Welsh and English players. It was amazing, the roar of

the crowd and the lighting was a bit overwhelming but I was determined to enjoy every second of this experience.

After the anthems, the mascots, flag bearers and choir left the pitch. I then ran to the centre of the field to place the ball down - however before I could put the ball down, I was greeted by Dan Biggar who took the ball off me, tapped my shoulder and said thank you, (unfortunately this wasn't shown on TV!).

It was an experience I will never forget and I am extremely grateful to have been chosen. I hope to return to Twickenham one day as a Welsh player #dreambig!

Rhys Perry Year 9



Kayla Duhig's Rowing Success

Two weeks before the first race, our team was put together. In the Sea Cadets' rowing team there are four rowers and a coxswain. We were unable to practice much because one of our rowers never showed up. It was the day before the race that we rowed as much as we could, before we were asked to come in! On the day of our race we were relieved that the whole team was present. It was soon our time to shine.

We were towed up to start line by a powerboat, alongside our greatest rivals, Fishguard Unit. In our team discussion, I told them, "Don't give up, no matter what happens." From the stern of the boat we were held by a rope. "Stand by". "To give away". "Together". The race started. Immediately we kicked into action. We rowed strong and together. The coxswain encouraged us with the usual chant. "Nice." "Long." "Easy."

Although adrenaline was rushing through my body, I focused on keeping my oar steady and not splicing. Out of the corner of my eye, the first glance I had, they were two boat lengths away. Confidence hit me! I had to keep my cool. It took three and a half minutes for me to take my final stroke. A bell sounded. A whistle blew and we had won. We all cheered before going alongside to share a group hug. Our goal was achieved; we were through to the next round!

Kayla Duhig
Year 10

Girls' Cricket

During the Summer term we were fortunate to have a Cricket Development Officer who came into school and worked with several Key Stage 3 classes. The girls were introduced to Kwik Cricket which was an enjoyable alternative activity.

As a result, we entered the Secondary Schools Cricket Competition, with a team of Year 7 pupils. The girls won the local round and progressed to play in the South Wales Finals. Unfortunately, this was then cancelled and we were put forward to the National Schools Cricket Competition Finals to be held in Bristol in July. Sadly due to other departmental commitments, one of which was our own school tennis tournament, we were again unable to fulfil this selection. Despite this, the girls thoroughly enjoyed their brief introduction to a new sport.

County Netball Success

Congratulations to Lucy Edwards, Year 12, who has been selected for the Glamorgan Valleys U18 County Netball Squad. Amy Bradbury and Isabel Appleton, both Year 9, have been selected for the U14 County Netball Squad.

Miss H Davies, PE Department





4th	Gwynedd	727pts
3rd	Dyfed	750pts
2nd	Morgannwg	764pts
1st	Powys	857pts

Sports Day 2015



Once again over 500 pupils deserted their classrooms and made their way on board 10 coaches travelling down the M4 motorway to Swansea University Athletics Stadium. All who were fortunate enough to attend Porthcawl Comprehensive School Sports Day 2015 bathed in the warm Summer sun and bid a fond farewell to two of the event's greatest supporters; Mr Keith John and Mrs Ruth Evans. The feats of athletic endeavour and scenes of selfless sportsmanship were a fitting backdrop for this dynamic duo's last ever Sports Day.



The travelling hordes ran, jumped and threw in athletic events ranging from the 100m to the 1500m; the long jump to the shot put. The fresh faced Year 7 spectators were treated to an outstanding sporting spectacle which will surely inspire them to be involved next year.



In Krista and Analise Kavanagh and Alex Audsley and Rohan Johns the Year 7's have four worthy champions; Krista was 1st in both the 100m and the long jump, picking up a 2nd also in the shot whilst her twin sister Analise won the discus and the shot. Alex meanwhile leapt his way to victory in the long jump and high jump and in Rohan we have unearthed a new speed merchant as he sped to victory in the 100m and 200m. Each of these pupils was in contention for the much coveted Victrix and Victor Ludorum (the awards given to the female and male athletes respectively who accumulate the most points for their house on Sports Day). Other female athletes in contention for the Victrix Ludorum included Grace Dalton Year 10, Madi Jones Year 8 and Skylar Evans Year 9 all achieving two 1st places for their respective houses. However in a repeat from last year, Emily Stradling was the only female to score 24 points and is the clear winner for the second year running of the Victrix Ludorum.

The Victor Ludorum this year for once is not shared and is awarded to a single male athlete who made an outstanding contribution to his house on Sports Day. However there were many boys who could have challenged for the top honour if they'd just manage to excel in a third event. There were 9 boys in total who won two events for their house and should be inspired next year to go out and challenge to be the top male athlete; Alex Audsley Year 7, Rohan Johns Year 7, Jack Williams Year 8, Patrick O'Neil Year 8, Tom Watkins Year 8, Jayden Russell Year 9, Tom Wright Year 9, Mit Russell Year 10 and Matthew Audsley Year 10.

The Victor Ludorum this year goes to Year 9's Sprint King, Will Murphy who achieved the sprint double in the 100m and 200m and finished a close second in the triple jump.

Athletics, largely an individual sport of PB's and school records becomes really exciting when you're part of a team, a relay team in particular. This year the relays were spectacular with records tumbling and photo finishes. Significantly, the stand out teams were from the house of Powys with their Year 8 boys' team and Year 9 girls' team breaking their respective year records.

In the final shake up for the Sports Day house competition the results are as above... in reverse order...





SURFING

Tom Horn in Year 9 is a very keen surfer and over the last two years he has taken part in a number of National and International surfing contests. In July 2014 he took part in a longboarding event in California and in July 2015 he took part in the Salinas Longboarding festival in Northern Spain.

Closer to home, he has competed more frequently in Long boarding events in West Wales, Devon and Cornwall and has just been picked as a Team member of the Welsh Junior Squad, which could result in representing Wales in European and World events next year. Tom's results so far have been as follows:

2014 British Longboard Union: 2nd place in overall tour in U16

2015 Welsh National Surfing Contest: 4th place in U18

2015 British Longboard Union Tour Event 1: 2nd place in U16

2015 British Longboard Union Tour Event 1: 4th place in U18

Shauna Gamble Yr 7

Bristol Academy: Centre Of Excellence

I have been selected for the Welsh Regional Football Squad and have been accepted to play for Bristol Academy Centre of Excellence this year. The Academy is an English National team for girls. I am thoroughly enjoying being in the team. I train twice during the week for two hours at a time and play a game every Saturday which can be anywhere in England. Additionally to playing football I also have training sessions on nutrition and physiotherapy. I have an individual plan and a target I have to work on in order to improve. I also have to self-evaluate after every session and game. My coach writes a weekly report on how I've played, my efforts and my progress throughout the week. (There is a lot more involved as well as the physical side!!) But, I love playing football and hope to play for England some day!!



MOUNTED GAMES

Zoe Juliff-Jones in Year 10 has only been competing in Mounted Games competitions for two seasons. Mounted Games involves riding a horse at speed and completing an obstacle race, which could include using a lance to collect small hoops or guiding your horse through bending poles to hand over a baton to the next rider. These games require skill and athletic agility from the rider and excellent horse riding too. The games can be completed individually, in pairs or teams. As with any sport, it takes a great deal of practice but with the addition of caring for your main partner- your horse!

Zoe was lucky enough to be chosen through a process of selection to ride for Wales at the Home International competition in Scotland and the European International competition in France last Summer. Both competitions involved being part of a team of riders who were all under 14.

During August, Zoe and her family travelled to France with her horse Fizz for the five day competition. After competing against the countries for five days Wales were in the final and were lucky enough to win the title of European Champions 2015. Zoe was so proud to be part of this team. In September, she travelled to Scotland to compete against the home nations and unfortunately Wales came second to England South. However, Zoe also took a second horse, Freckles and competed in the 'pairs' competition and they both rode well enough to win. These experiences have taken much time and dedication from Zoe and her family but she hopes that she will be selected to ride for Wales again in the U17 age range.





Atlantic Games Orio Summer 2015

In May we got selected for the Welsh U19 Surf Lifesaving team and therefore got the opportunity to represent Wales in Spain at the Atlantic Games. The Atlantic Games is a European competition that takes place every year with over 500 participants competing in several nautical disciplines such as surfing, sailing, rowing, fin swimming and of course, surf lifesaving.

On May 23rd was the Welsh Rankings – an event selecting the most elite team from all over Wales to take to Spain to compete in the Atlantic Games. Not to go unnoticed is the fact that this particular Ranking was a double – each event was done twice. This made the day very tiring for us and all the other athletes competing, but this didn't stop us, because both of us found the day to be an amazing experience, completing the swim, board, ski and flags event twice!

We both had a hugely successful day – finishing top ten in every event. Then we both received an email late that night telling us we were off to Spain in July. This was a great achievement as we were the youngest to be

chosen. Over the next few weeks we had several training and team building sessions to prepare us for the upcoming competition. On July 13th we set off on our journey to Northern Spain on a bus of 12 girls and 12 boys from all over Wales. After a rough journey, we arrived the next day in the beautiful town of Orio. But after being shown our accommodation; a school where they had broken up for the Summer with other teams in nearby classrooms, we headed down to the beach for a late night swim.

The competition took place over the course of 5 days. The opening ceremony began the competition with live coverage of the teams marching through the town and ending up at the beach where we tried some local delicacies – which weren't to our liking!

Over the following days we competed in the beach sprints, swim, board, surf ski and much more. We also did a tube rescue together. This involved one person swimming out to a buoy, then raising their hand to set off the rescuer who had to swim to the teammate and tow them in using a torpedo buoy.



WELSH JUNIOR SURF LIFESAVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

On the 5th-6th of September, the Welsh Surf Lifesaving Championships were held at Coney Beach, Porthcawl. This event enables all the Welsh clubs (about 15 in total) to compete in the same surf lifesaving events as in the Atlantic Games. Other than the British Championships, it is the main competition which is open to anyone. This is different from the Atlantic Games which involves select teams only. It is normally held on Aberavon but this year luckily Porthcawl got to host it!

My results were as follows:-

1st	U14s	Board Race
2nd	U14s	Swim Race
2nd	U14s	Oceanwoman
2nd	U14s	Tube Rescue
3rd	U14s	Surfski Race
3rd	U16s	Board Rescue

Elen McCloy
Year 10

Wales brought home some fantastic results and many medals so therefore coming first overall against many Spanish and French teams also. The closing ceremony had been brought forward a day so, after a mass tidy-up, and we left on Saturday morning for the ferry. Needless to say that we were all shattered – especially after each night being a late one.

At the end of October we both received a Welsh cap for our efforts and will continue training to hopefully make the team next year. If you like the sound of surf lifesaving, there are several local clubs that will welcome all ages and abilities. It's never too late to get involved!

Elen McCloy & Sarah Davidson
Year 10



Jessica Adams Horse-Riding

Jessica Adams had mixed fortunes this Summer enjoying fantastic success at the David Broom Event Centre when she qualified for the Championships of Great Britain in August on her pony, Mia.

Just before the Championships however, Jessica was involved in a nasty accident with her other pony which resulted in her injuring her knee. It could have been even

worse as her pony came within inches of landing on top of her, and in the process her saddle snapped in half. This unfortunately meant that Jessica was unable to compete in the Championships of Great Britain after all this year, but she hopes very much to be able to attend next year with her new horse.

GOOD LUCK JESSICA!

LIFEGUARDS:

News from the Nippers



On the 18th and 19th of July at the beginning of the Summer holidays, Ella Staveley competed in the Welsh Nippers Championships for Sker and Pink Bay Lifeguard Team. She placed in all of her races and she picked up three medals along the way.

These medals were in the Board Rescue with her partner Nia Clatworthy 1st, Beach Flags 2nd and Super Nipper 3rd. All the races she competed in were very closely fought but she did her best and the outcome was great! Overall Sker and Pink Bay finished 5th out of 13 clubs - the best they had ever placed in a Welsh Championships! Successes from PCS included Nia Clatworthy winning 5

golds, 2 silvers and 1 bronze, Hannah Davidson winning 3 golds and 2 silvers, Megan Froley getting 1 gold 2 silvers and 2 bronze, Aimee Brown getting a bronze, Emily Cox also getting a gold in the Board Rescue with Hannah Davidson, Leonora Breheny getting a silver, Anni Martin and Harriet Williams.

Ella also competed in the British Lifeguard Championships that were held in Exmouth on the 29th and 30th of August and placed in most of her races finishing with a bronze medal in Board Rescue with her partner Nia Clatworthy. Once again Sker did amazingly finishing 15th out of 30 clubs! Again PCS was strongly represented with Nia Clatworthy getting 1 gold and 2 bronze, Hannah Davidson picking up 1 gold and 1 bronze, Emily Cox with a gold and Megan Froley, Leonora Breheny and also Ben Buckley competing in his first competition. Lots of other members of our school competed from different clubs in both the British and the Welsh such as Meg McCloy, Ellie McCloy, Carys Morgan, Chloe Wyatt, Ocean Poultney-Maddy, Emily Ezard, Joseph Ezard, Ioan Evans, Dylan Wisden and Osian Phinnimore and many more!

Ella Staveley
Year 9

All the races she competed in were very closely fought but she did her best and the outcome was great!

TENNIS TOURNAMENT 2015

Tuesday 7th July -
Thursday 9th July 2015



Senior Girls' Winner Elise Thomas



Senior Mixed Doubles Winners
Connor Harrington Pittam and Lucie Bentley



TENNIS TOURNAMENT 2015

Tuesday 7th July - Thursday 9th July 2015

The ninth annual Porthcawl Comprehensive School Tennis Tournament was a huge success again this year, attracting over 200 entries both male and female from Years 7 to 10.

With the vast number of participants for the tournament, qualifying games were played throughout lunch time sessions and after school clubs, to achieve entry to the main competition.

This format allowed players of all abilities the opportunity to participate and enjoy. The response to tennis, as always, was magnificent, culminating in a well organised and supported event, with pupils producing an excellent standard of play on the courts.

The event has again proved to be an enormous success, and will no doubt continue to be a

significant part of the Summer term at Porthcawl. At court side, Year 10 AYPD leaders and BTEC pupils helped the PE staff in planning fixtures and recording results.

The winners of each event were awarded with an engraved 5 x 60 Slate trophy to remind them of their achievement.

Results - Boys' Tournament

A summary of the Boys' Tournament is below (Years 8 -10)

1/4 FINAL	SEMI FINAL	FINAL	WINNERS
Harley Stephens 6	Harley Stephens 6	Harley Stephens 6	The Boys' Plate Competition was won by Ethan Waters who beat Year 7 Matthew Greenwood in the Plate Final 6-3.
Kirtis Pridmore 4	Matt Greenwood 6	Matt Greenwood 3	
Harry Evans 1	Harry Nicholls 0	Connor HP 0	In the Final of the Year 7 Competition, Lucas Hoven beat Matthew Greenwood 6-3 and both athletes progressed into the main boys' draw up on the astro-turf.
Matt Greenwood 5	Joseph Culbertson 5	Ethan Waters 6	
Levi Snell 2	Connor HP 6		Harley Stephens
Tom Francis 3	Callum Jones 1		Ethan Waters
Harry Nicholls 6	Callum Morgan 0		
Joseph Culbertson 5	Ethan Waters 5		
Connor HP 6			
Kieran Tantom 1			
Patrick O'Neil 1			
Callum Jones 5			
Ross Overton 2			
Ethan Waters 5			
Callum Morgan 5			
Max Shears 1			



Harley Stephens - Singles Winner with Runner Up Connor Harrington Pittam

Plate Competition



Year 7 Winners - Ffion Masters and Lucas Hoven



Jacob Johns and Lilli Furness



Senior Boys' Runner Up - Connor Harrington Pittam and Senior Girls' Runner up Lilli Furness

Results - Girls' Tournament

A summary of the Girls' Tournament is below (Years 8 -10)

1/4 FINAL	SEMI FINAL	FINAL	WINNERS
Lilli Furness 5	Lilli Furness 6	Lilli Furness 1	In the Girls' Plate Final, former Year 7 winner Kit Cronin saw off Nia Bowen 6-0. The Year 7 Girls' winner was Ffion Masters who beat Annalise Kavanagh 6-2.
Maya Squires 1	Kit Cronin 5	Kit Cronin 6	
Sarah Davidson 2	Cherisse Lau 5	Elise Thomas 6	Elise Thomas Kit Cronin
Kit Cronin 4	Megan Morris 2	Nia Bowen 0	
Cherisse Lau 5	Grace Dalton 3	Elise Thomas 6	Plate Competition
Megan Morris 4	Lucie Bentley 0	Nia Bowen 0	
Anni Martin 3	Elise Thomas 6		
Jenny Passingham 3	Nia Bowen 5		
Caitlin Toy 2			
Lucy Dennis 0			
Grace Dalton 5			
Lucie Bentley 4			
Amy Bradbury 4			
Nia Bowen 4			
Elise Thomas 5			
Eden Thomas 3			

Doubles Results

In the Mixed Doubles Final Lucie Bentley and Conner HP beat Grace Dalton and Jacob John and in Year 7 Mixed Doubles, Annie Williams and Lucas Hoven provided the winning formula to beat Hannah Thompson and Sam Bennett.

Tennis Team News

Again this year an U13 Boys', U13 Girls', U15 Boys' and U15 Girls' team were entered into the Aegon Schools Tennis Competition. Our success and love for tennis as a school was completed by the U15 Boys' Tennis Team winning the Swansea and Bridgend League and progressing through to the South Wales Finals

in the David Lloyd Centre Cardiff in September. The U15 team comprised of Harley Stephens, Max Shears, Connor Harrington Pittam and Harry Nicholls.

Harley Stephens, Year 9 wrote on Finals Day:

"Having fought our way through to the South Wales Finals we were very excited to play in the David Lloyd Centre. It was an amazing achievement and down to the hard work and determination the team has shown this year to reach this stage of the competition. We were up against some exceptional talent and overcame talented teams from Cwm Tawe, Swansea and a good Port Talbot school to reach the final. We played Whitchurch School, Cardiff for a chance to be titled the

best school U15 team in South Wales. We played some lengthy matches and performed to the best of our abilities but it just wasn't quite enough and unfortunately we lost to the better team. It was still an enjoyable day and we were all very proud to come away with second place when the standard was so high. Well done boys!"



WIMBLEDON 2015



The Wimbledon trip was a great experience for 8 lucky pupils; we had the chance to witness some spectacular tennis while also enjoying some delicious strawberries and cream.

The drive to Wimbledon was filled with excitement and laughs. However, the lengthy journey would be broken by the usual "Are we there yet?" and Mr Davies' mathematical questions, just to make the trip a little more educational.

Nonetheless we arrived at Wimbledon and the great atmosphere just hit us instantly. The roar of the crowds from different courts made us more excited after finding out we would get to see talents like Milos Raonic, Stanislas Wawrinka and Heather Watson. Despite the match just about to

start, some of us couldn't resist the urge to be on TV and tried to find every big camera. After witnessing Raonic's lightning serves reaching 144mph, we cheered on Britain's very own Heather Watson. The support she had from us and the crowd was amazing. Despite the temperature reaching a record breaking 41°C on court a great quality of tennis was still being played.

After a long day of fun and excitement it was time for us to go home. The drive home would be less energetic as most of us were tired and we could only wish we could be there again. A massive thank you to Mr Davies and Miss Owens for giving us the opportunity to go on the trip.

Mit Russell
Year 11

Porthcawl Puzzler

Autumn 2015 Prize Draw

Name:

Form:

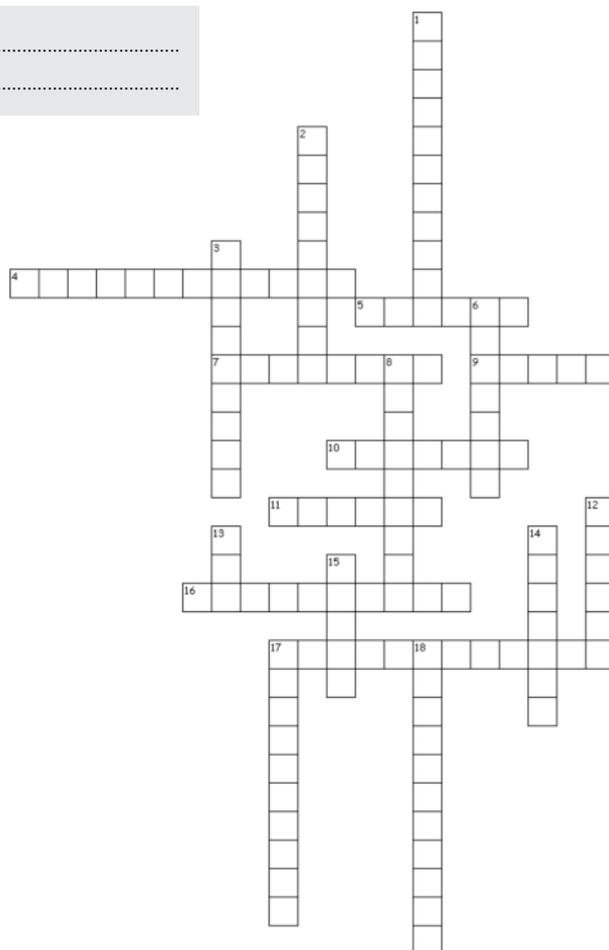
Please submit all entries to your Form Teachers to collect in registers or return to Mrs Nicola Evans in A Block office by Monday 14th December. A £10 voucher for the canteen will be awarded to the first correct entry pulled out of the draw!

ACROSS

- 4 What is Mr McKenzie's nickname when he is Kayaking?
- 5 Where was the Junior Athletics Championships held?
- 7 What was the name of the camp stayed at by our Duke of Edinburgh hikers?
- 9 Where has swimmer Rebecca Sutton got her sights set on for 2020?
- 10 What was the first name of the visitor to the Year 13 Theatre Workshop?
- 11 What day is Singing Club for Years 7-9?
- 16 From what country were the visitors that Nottage Primary hosted a Garden Party for?
- 17 Where did Grace Dalton fly to compete in the International Mounted Games?

DOWN

- 1 What was the name of the school visited by our French Exchange Pupils?
- 2 What was the name of the shopping centre visited by pupils on their theatre trip on Activities Day?
- 3 What was the name of the coffee shop inside Eversheds?
- 6 In which month did we hold our Year 6 Open Evening?
- 8 What was the name of the survivor from Auschwitz whose testimony was heard by students?
- 12 Who served at an incredible 144mph at Wimbledon?
- 13 Where did Wayne Rooney return from to attend our Attendance Draw?
- 14 Who put Year 12 through their paces on the field team building?
- 15 Who "Pulled it off" at Pentyrch Village Hall?
- 17 Winner of the Victor Ludorum on Sports Day?
- 18 What was the subject of Alice Webber's painting in the Art Challenge Wales?



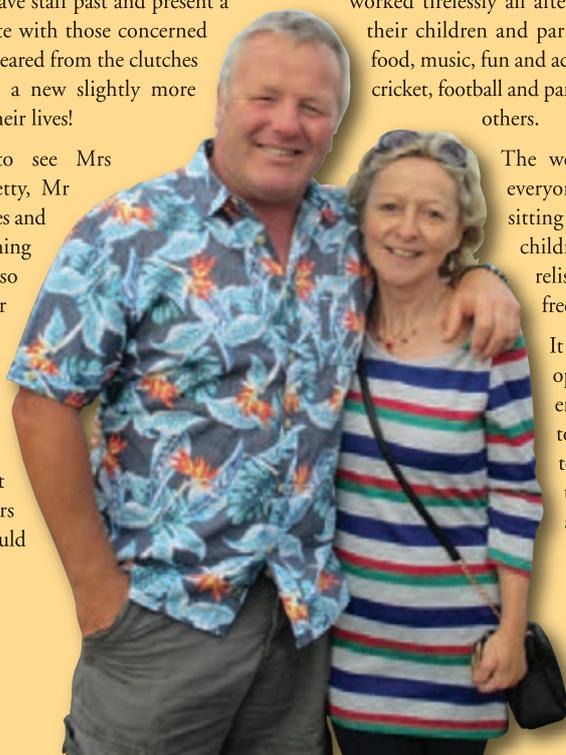
STAFF SUMMER BARBEQUE

JULY 4th 2015



The recent burst of retirements was all the excuse Miss Pugh needed to be spurred into action to organise a staff barbeque to mark the moment. It gave staff past and present a chance to celebrate with those concerned before they disappeared from the clutches of PCS and into a new slightly more relaxed phase of their lives!

It was lovely to see Mrs Crockett, Mrs Petty, Mr Morgan, Ms Davies and Mrs Maddy returning and all looking so well in their retirements – Mr John, Mrs Evans and Mr Lewis had just a couple more weeks at school before it was time for theirs to begin. They could hardly wait!



The event was a family day held at school, and took the form of an afternoon barbeque, expertly cooked by our Catering Manager, Darren Everall who worked tirelessly all afternoon. Staff brought their children and partners and enjoyed the food, music, fun and activities which included cricket, football and parachute games amongst others.

The weather was kind and everyone was able to enjoy sitting outside with the children running around relishing the space and freedom.

It was a lovely opportunity for staff to enjoy a light hearted get together, and thank you to Miss Pugh for having the idea and actually seeing it through!



Instrument exams

Congratulations to all musicians that have sat grade exams over the past term!! Remember to update your music teacher on any success that you achieve or see Mrs. Giles so that she can update her records and publish your achievement in the next Porthcawl Post!

Diolch, Mrs Giles

Pupil Achievements

Many congratulations go to the following:-

Pupil Achievements Autumn 2015 (Sporting):

Josh Baroth, Dylan Pearson, Will Hapgood, Adam Williams, Ethan Weaver & Jack Williams Year 9
Members of Penybont, Bridgend Schools U13 Squad 2015

Josh Baroth, Will Hapgood, Adam Williams, Jack Williams & Ethan Weaver Year 9
Members of the Cardiff City Advanced Development Centre Squad

Sarah Davidson & Elen McCloy Year 10
Represented Wales in Surf Lifesaving at the Atlantic Games at Orio

Jessica Thornton Year 10
Represented Wales at Cricket

Ioan Evans Year 9
Selected for Sainsbury's School Games 2015

Rhys Perry Year 9
Winner of Capital Radio Competition – chosen to run out with the match ball at Twickenham for England Vs Wales during the Rugby World Cup – 24/9/15

Grace Dalton Year 11
Represented Great Britain at the Pony Club Mounted Games International Competition – Virginia USA

Shivprakash Arun Year 11
Selected for Mid Glamorgan U15 Cricket Team

Sam Hopkins Year 9
Selected for Summer Camp in Dublin as part of Welsh U14 Basketball Squad

Lowri Powis Year 7
Selected for U12 Wales Basketball Squad

Rebecca Sutton Year 10
Swimming - European Youth Olympic Festival, Georgia – 2 Silver Medals (U14)
Commonwealth Youth Games, Samoa – 2 Silver Medals & 1 Bronze Medal (U18)

Ocean Poultney Maddy Year 8
Selected for Wales at British Triathlon Championships

Jessica Adams Year 9
Horse-Riding - Qualified for Championships of Great Britain

Lucy Evans Year 9
Represented South Wales at Area Sailing Regatta
Winner of National Windsurfing Competition

Maja Zeleska Year 10
Selected for U16 County Hockey Squad

Lauren Hancock Year 9
Selected for U14 County Hockey Squad

Jazmin Gamble Year 9
Selected for U14 County Hockey Squad

Amy Bradbury Year 9
Selected for U14 County Hockey Squad and Glamorgan Valleys U14 County Netball Squad

Lucy Edwards Year 12
Selected for Glamorgan Valleys U18 County Netball Squad

Isabel Appleton Year 9
Selected for Glamorgan Valleys U14 County Netball Squad

Josh Lewis Year 9
Represented Wales at Kickboxing at the ICO World Championships in Germany

Thomas Salberg Year 10
Represented Wales at Kickboxing at the World Championships in Germany

Rebekah Morrissey Year 9
Represented Wales at ICO World Championships in Germany

Alexander Cleary Year 10
1st Place in Junior Kumite (over 50kg) at British Kyokushin Championships

Pupil Achievements (Non Sporting)

Jack Bridger, Felicity Williamson-Sarll, Nathaniel King & Matthew Dang 6th Form
National Winners of the Young Consumers of the Year Competition after a 2 day final in London

Daisy Brown Year 10
Represented the Scout movement at the National Assembly "Assemble the Youth Vote"

Musical Achievements Autumn 2015

Name	Instrument	Grade
Emily Childs Year 10	Flute	Grade 4 Pass
Elys Davies Year 9	Flute	Grade 3 Merit

Name	Instrument	Grade
Millie Fry Year 10	Flute	Grade 4 Merit
Jamie Harrowing Year 9	Oboe	Grade 4 Dist
Isabelle Hone Year 8	Flute	Grade 3 Merit
Laurence Hunt Year 11	Alto Saxophone	Grade 7 Dist
Katie Liu Year 8	Violin	Grade 2 Pass
Elen McCloy Year 10	Flute	Grade 4 Merit
Layla Millar Year 11	Clarinet	Grade 6 Pass
Olivia Pownall Year 9	Flute	Grade 5 Dist
Matthew Pugh Year 9	Theory Trombone	Grade 3 Merit Grade 4 Merit
Sunil Vimmuti Year 9	Violin	Grade 3 Merit
Rhianwen Keirl Year 11	Trumpet	Grade 3 Merit
Iwan Hill Year 9	Flugelhorn	Grade 3 Dist
Asher Williams Year 7	Bass Guitar	Grade 1 Dist
Kai Williams Year 9	Electric Guitar	Grade 5 Merit
Berry Williams Year 12	Electric Guitar	Grade 5 Merit

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

We rely on you for our information!
Has your child achieved success or recognition relating to an extra-curricular activity? If so, please email pressbox@porthcawlschool.co.uk

Design : HahnGraphics 01792 850288

Answers from Maths Challenge on page 22 1) is C) 7 and 2) B) 2 as we do not know who did steal them 2 of them will still have told the truth.

